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Baby Prince On His First Outing



Prince Charles, the infant son of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, is shown having his first outing in the palace grounds earlier this month. The photo shows Sister Maud Helen Rowe, wheeling the Royal baby's pram, in which Princess Elizabeth spent her own babyhood.—AP Photo.

Security Officers Search Carrier To Solve Riddle

Plymouth, December 16.

Admiralty security officers today searched the 14,000-ton aircraft carrier *Terrible* from bow to stern in an effort to solve the riddle of how seven steel bolts got into a gear box. As the ship was handed over ceremonially to Australia—becoming His Majesty's Australian ship *Sydney*—the investigation went on amid whispers: "Was it sabotage or an accident?"

French Protest Western Union Agreements

Paris, December 15.

French Deputies today protested against Frenchmen being used as infantry cannon fodder under the Western Union agreements.

These protests from Popular Republican and Gaullist members followed a report to the National Assembly's Defence Commission by the Minister of National Defence, M. Paul Ramadier.

The Gaullist Deputy, M. Pierre Clostermann, declared that France should have its own air unit in any European defence scheme and must not merely be used as the infantry of Western defence.

M. Ramadier replied that all mutual defence schemes are still at the stage of examination and that no specific commitments have been undertaken.

According to usually reliable sources, the French Government is considering extending to French Africa the obligations undertaken in the Brussels defence pact.

This may involve a radical new programme of industrialisation and armament of French African troops.

The Defence Commission adopted this morning the preamble to a series of bills for the reorganisation of the French armed forces in which France agrees to abandon in favour of a higher international sovereignty.

An amendment states that France will not participate in a war of aggression. A Communist effort to add the words, "notably against Soviet Russia," was rejected.—Reuter.

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YANGTSE LINE THREATENED

Communists Resume Push, Take Two Govt Bastions PEIPING'S FALL EXPECTED

Nanking, December 16.

The Communist threat to the vital Yangtse River line along the Grand Canal, hitherto overshadowed by major fighting on the Pengpu-Hsueh and North China fronts, today was reported to have assumed serious proportions.

Pro-Government reports said a sizeable Communist army, estimated at 40,000 men, pushed Government troops back to Kaoyu, only 35 miles North of the Yangtse River and 63 miles North East of Nanking.

The major Nationalist bastion, Paoying, 30 miles North of Kaoyu, was captured by the Communists.

This Communist army, commanded by General Sun Yu, "Victor of Tainan," is regarded presently as a greater threat to the Yangtse River line than even the 22-odd Communist columns North of Pengpu.

It is most likely it would be the first sizeable Communist force to reach the river bank, putting the river line directly into the major theatre in the civil war with probable serious effects on the Government position in the Pengpu-Hsueh area.

Threat To Rear

Government troops facing General Sun's Reds were said to be placed in an unfavourable position by a threat to their rear from

Bill For H.K. Workers

A Bill to protect Hong Kong's workers in the event of injury, disablement or death resulting from work engaged in is now being prepared by the Labour authorities.

The draft Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, prepared before the war, has been re-drafted by the Labour Advisory Board and brought up to date.

The draft Bill, at present in the hands of a special sub-committee, is being examined clause by clause.

The "China Mail" learned authoritatively yesterday that certain amendments to the draft Bill have been suggested. These are now under consideration.

When completed, the draft will be submitted to the Attorney-General for final scrutiny, and then presented to the Legislative Council for approval.

Communist guerrillas. The chances generally are considered against them in their effort to check the Red lunge towards the Yangtse River.

The Social Welfare Daily reported that they were now carrying out mopping up operations against Communist roving bands around Yangchow. Nationalist base 15 miles North of the Yangtse River.

Communists under Generals Chen Yi and Liu Po-cheng were today reported to be continuing their Eastward movement from the Honan-Kiangsu-Anhui border region, with the ap-

Vehicular Ferry Steps Up Schedule

To relieve the traffic congestion on their ferry launches, the Hong Kong and Yau-mat Ferry Company has extended its schedules.

With the completion of the last of three vessels in its Vehicular Ferry Service, the company announced that they are able to operate a full-service daily.

The Man Yung is available for service tomorrow and as from 1.30 p.m. tomorrow the company expects to begin a full 12-minute service from Hong Kong.

The ferries will leave every 12 minutes throughout the day until

Another Strike On W. Coast?

San Francisco, December 15.

Another strike threatened today with the disclosure that the AFL Sailors' Union of the Pacific has left a 60-day strike notice with the Department of Labour.

Omar Hoskins, Federal Conciliator, revealed that the Union, which has the sailors want to modify or terminate their existing agreement.

The Union, which did not participate in the recent 95-day maritime strike, had been negotiating with the ship owners the past two weeks on increased wages and better overtime provisions.

The negotiations broke down when the sailors, demanding raises ranging from \$20 to \$40 a month, turned down the management offer of \$16 to \$20 earlier this week.

No meetings have been held since Monday.—United Press.

0 p.m., after which they will run at 20 minutes' intervals until 11 p.m. on ordinary days and until midnight on week-ends.

The daily services start at 6.20 a.m. from both sides of the harbour, running at 20-minute intervals until 8 p.m., when the 12-minute schedule comes into effect.

All small cars of 12 h.p. or under will be carried in the side decks leaving the main deck for commercial vehicles and larger cars. Passenger vehicles will be given priority over commercial vehicles on Sundays.

still considering whether to assume the top Government post to replace Mr. Wong Wen-hao.

These sources said that Dr. Sun Fo's reluctance to assume the premiership was indicated by the fact so far that he has not resigned from the incumbent office as President of the Legislative Yuan.

Dr. Sun Fo's assumption of the premiership, it was said, will be conditioned by the extent of independent powers that President Chiang Kai-shek will delegate to the new Government and the degree of co-operation among the various elements and cliques within the Kuomintang.

There is no evidence that Dr. Sun Fo has found satisfaction in either of these respect and the question remains open that he might retire from the premiership to which he was appointed.—Reuter-AAP.

French Blow Up Berlin's Red Antennas

Berlin, December 16.

French engineers today blew up the two tall antenna towers of the Russian-controlled Radio Berlin silencing Russia's No. 1 propaganda voice in Germany.

Major General Jean Ganeval, French Commander in Berlin, said he had ordered the destruction of the towers because they were a hazard to the Western airlift flying supplies over the Russian surface blockade to Berlin.

Two hours after the blast at 10.45 a.m. Berlin time the station was still off the air. Officials at the station said that technical difficulties had interrupted the programmes.

The explosion sent tons of iron and steel cascading over the frozen countryside in the French sector.

The two high, steel-frame towers were located in the French sector on the Northern outskirts of Berlin along the airlift route to Tegel airport.

The French authorities warned Russian officials two weeks ago that they intended to blast the towers. The headquarters of the station is at Rundfunkhaus, an eight-storey building in the British sector.

The highest tower was estimated to be 600 feet high. It fell with the other one as airlift planes circled overhead en route to Tegel.

The demolition was a complete surprise to United States Air Force personnel working at the air base. One member said the "blast almost blew us out of our boots. We didn't know what had happened."

Warning of the forthcoming blast was given by General Ganeval.

Heinz Schmidt, German manager of Radio Berlin, could not be reached for comment. He was reported in conference.

It was understood the Russians had taken steps to set up new antennas in the Russian Zone outside the city.—United Press.

The Weather

At 0600 GMT (2 p.m. HKST) a trough of low pressure extends S from a depression over Siberia into central China and separates the high pressure area to the W from the anti-cyclone now centred over Korea. This anti-cyclone is moving slowly towards N Japan as the deep depression over the Pacific moves away to the E. A shallow depression over the S China sea SW of Manila continues to weaken.

Today's Forecast—Moderate E or SE winds freshening at times. Fair and hazy.

Yesterday's Weather—Maximum: 84.4 deg. Fah. Minimum: 61.0 deg. Fah. Sunshine: 7.5 hours. Rainfall: 0.0 mm. Total since Jan. 1—5278.3 mm.—97.48 ins. as against an average of 2124.8 mm.—83.72 ins. Readings at 10 a.m. 4 p.m.

Bar. at m.s.l. 1012.4 1010.9 m.b. Humidity 77 75 % Rel. Humidity 77 75 % Dew Point 65 64 deg. F. Wind Direction S E by S Wind Force 2 2 kts. Wind Force 2 2 kts.

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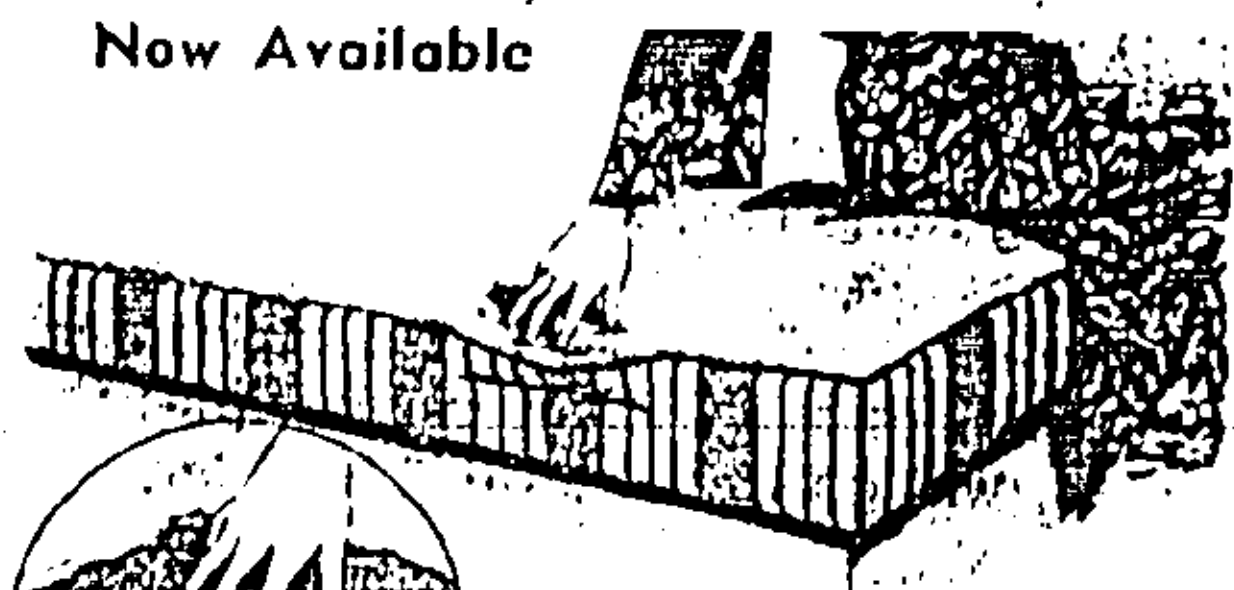
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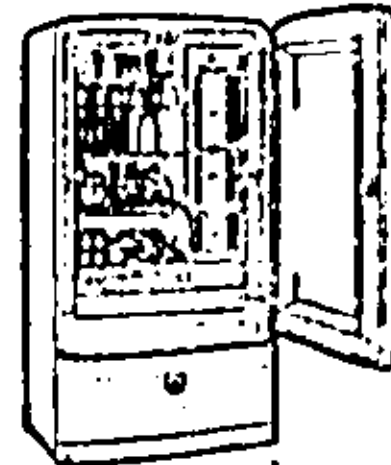
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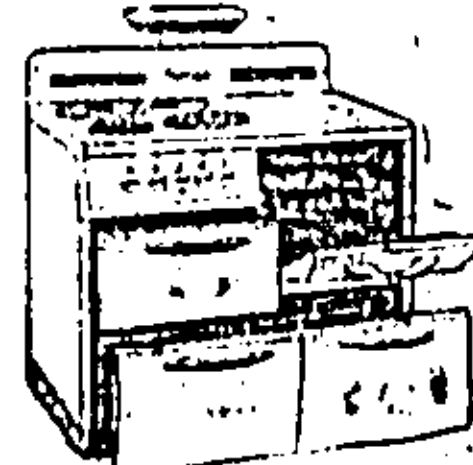
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CHINESE IMPRESSION OF AMERICAN HOME LIFE

A Chinese impression of American home life was given by the Rev. Roland Koh at the weekly luncheon of the International Y's Men's Club yesterday.

Addressing members at the Hong Kong Hotel Roof Garden, the Rev. Koh, who has recently returned from the United States, talked of his six-month-tour and the life of the American housewife.

The kitchen is the centre of the American home, said Mr. Koh, who had stayed in more than 30 American homes during his tour, including palatial mansions and the average worker's apartment.

American businessmen have helped the American housewife to keep house without entailing much time and labour. Patented foods have made cooking easy. Mechanical devices save labour and time.

The kitchen of an average American home is well equipped with all the comforts of living, including radio, telephone, refrigerator and electric stoves. This portion of the house is the nucleus of family life. Even old friends are welcomed and entertained in the kitchen.

Life In The Kitchen

They eat and spend most of their time in the kitchen, saving a lot of time and labour by not having to carry the necessary materials and foodstuffs around the house.

Food is simple, as the housewife cannot afford to spend much time to prepare a variety of dishes for the meals. The average housewife has time for so-called activities besides her domestic duties.

For those with children, a sister or a nursery takes over the caring to enable the parents to take time off for enjoyment. The cost ranges from 60 cents to US\$1.00 an hour.

The other aspects of American home life are the annual leave and the five-day working week. This gives much time for the workers to be with their families and travel for change of environment.

A happy home life in America is interpreted as the ability of the family members to utilise their hands for the various operations of its management. To the Americans, a disabled limb is a terrible setback.

Long Range Payment

An average worker has the opportunity to own a house by the long-range easy payment system. With careful managing of his income, he can possess a comfortable house.

The high cost of labour and the availability of modern labour-saving devices have prevented many housewives from engaging servants.

Contrasting sharply with the American home life, Hong Kong housewives seek the service of others for several reasons. First, help is a necessity in this colony. It is short of such mechanical apparatus. The happy home life of a Hong Kong family is judged by the number of servants. Without a refrigerator or other cooling machines, the servant has to go marketing about three times a day.

Rev. Koh concluded his address by saying that the American housewife has the opportunity to own a house by the long-range easy payment system. With careful managing of his income, he can possess a comfortable house.

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Rev. Koh concluded his address by saying that the American housewife has the opportunity to own a house by the long-range easy payment system. With careful managing of his income, he can possess a comfortable house.

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Welsh Members Of Services Entertained

Welsh members of the Services were entertained by the St. David's Society at a Christmas supper party at the Sailors' and Soldiers' Home, Hennessey Road, on Wednesday.

The guests were welcomed by Dr. Alun Thomas, Vice-President, in the presence from the Colony of the Society's President Mr. J. R. Jones. Some 60 Welsh members of the Forces attended the function.

A substantial supper, which included roast turkey and plum pudding, was followed by a musical programme.

Those who took part in the programme were: Mrs. Hooper (Y Deryn Pur), Miss Jane Mansel (Dawn Bird Singing and Waltz of My Heart), "Taffy" Mason (Bless This House), Mr. Dennis Phillips (The Ash Grove), Mr. W. H. Bailey (Old Father Thames and The Old Big Drum) and Sister Albert Nesh (Cafon Lan).

In addition to the programme, there was an impromptu community singing of Welsh airs and songs. Mr. Victor Watson, writer attached to HMS Tamar and organist in the Methodist Church, accompanied most of the items on the piano.

Welsh persons arriving in the Colony requested to contact the President of the St. David's Society, Mr. J. R. Jones, at the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, or Mr. E. H. Salisbury, the Honorary Secretary at the Supreme Court.

St. John's Orders

Orders by Colonel A. J. Arentz, Commander, Hong Kong District: A. HONG KONG SUB DISTRICT Ambulance Detachment (Hong Kong) December 15 to 25, 1948.

Football Match Duties: Saturday and Sunday, December 18 and 19, 1948. Navy Ground, 4 p.m. Canton Division: Caroline Hill, 4 p.m. RCAA Division: Sunday, December 19, 1948.

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Miss Wong Wing-kwan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wong Tse-shan, became the bride of Mr. Chan Pui-chun, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chan Yee-ling, on Wednesday. The ceremony was conducted by Mr. T. W. Kwok, Special Commissioner (Foreign Affairs) for Kwangtung-Kwangai, at the Hong Kong Hotel. The bride and bridegroom were educated at the Ling-nam University, Canton. The Pageboy was Master Lai Nai-chiu and the Flower-girl Miss Wu Shuk-yin. ("China Mail" Photo).

Lebensraum Wanted In Hong Kong

The major difficulty in Hong Kong is to find Lebensraum, said Mr. Robert Bruce, British Council representative in Hong Kong, when he gave a talk at the Kowloon Rotary Club luncheon at the Peninsula Hotel yesterday.

There is no library, no concert hall, no theatre, no museum, no public reading room, nor a central building to serve as a shop window for cultural communication, said the speaker, who added, "But I still have hopes."

Rotarian Tseu, Vice-President, proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker.

Visiting Rotarians were Messrs. Cresson (Singapore), K. Huang (District Governor, District 103), I. G. Brittain (Canton), and J. A. Ayres, Fung Ping-fan and A. V. Skvortsov (Hong Kong).

Guests were Messrs. J. P. Inglis, C. C. R. Shukwry, W. A. Allman, R. M. Service, E. Joffe, Yungate, F. D. Clement, J. Bruce, J. G. O'Donnell, R. P. Newell, D. Keith, Dr. K. H. Cheung, and Commander L. J. Brooks.

HEARING FIXED

The hearing of an alleged assault case against A. David, aged 39, merchant, residing at 43 Conduit Road, was fixed for 2.30 p.m. on December 21.

Before Mr. F. X. d'Almada, David was charged with an alleged assault on a traffic constable outside the Star Ferry.

Defendant, in answer to the charge pleaded not guilty.

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Church Club To Present Nativity Play

A nativity play, "Wonder Night" by Florence Roch, produced by Francis Dapista for the Rosary Church Club, will be presented for two consecutive showings, beginning on December 19.

The play will be staged in the Tai Ching Middle School, Shau-shan, on the No. 6 Kowloon Motor Bus route.

"Wonder Night" contains all the drama that has made the story of the nativity. The production will be supported by choral singing. The features of the play will be Lella Xavier in the role of the Virgin Mary—the portrayal will be secondary in importance to her singing of the "Magnificat" in the house of Zachary scene.

Admission to the drama is free or passes may be obtained at the Catholic Centre, King's Building, or at Rosary Church, Kowloon, but a retelling collection will be made and the amounts will go towards the Rosary Church Club-house fund.

Volunteer Corps Orders

Orders by Colonel L. T. Rile, Commander, Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps, follow:

Reorganization (HKVDC): (a) Members of the Corps will be reorganized in today's process following on from H.E. the Governor's announcement over the radio, that the HKVDC is to be re-organized.

(b) The reorganization will come into effect on a date to be decided by the Governor. This date will be published in the Government Gazette. The HKVDC will carry on as at present.

Overseas Service (HKVDC): Leave Authority has now been received to pay an extra grant equivalent to the allowance for Overseas Service. Leave to those members of the HKVDC who qualify by service, were not repatriated, and who were mobilized in the Colony.

A rate paid will be on the basis of one day's full pay and allowances for every completed month of service.

Volunteers who consider themselves eligible for this benefit are requested to submit their applications for payment to the Adjutant forthwith. They will be notified individually when to call for payment.

Volunteers who were deemed to have been mobilized on December 25, and who have received the ex-gratia grant are not entitled to this benefit.

NRA Petal Matches 1948: The BR (a) and BR (b) matches in the above competition will be first by selected teams representing the Colony on Saturday, December 18, at 10 a.m.

Launch leaves Queen's Pier 9 a.m. sailing at Police Pier Kowloon en route. "Strength Decreases" 3074 Tpt. 11 Wing-hon, No. 7 Company; 4224 Gnr. Chung Wah-chung, 4th Battery; Col. Tam Suak-ai, No. 7 Company; 4219 Gnr. Markier, 4th Battery; 4225 Gnr. Ali, 4th Battery; 2156 Gnr. Pau, C.F.B. 4th Battery.

Memorial Service: A Memorial Service will be held at the Military Cemetery, Stanley, on Sunday, December 20, at 3 p.m. when wreaths will be laid on the graves of members of the Scottish Company.

Transport will leave Queen's Pier at 2.15 p.m. Those requiring accommodation should advise "Corp." W.E. MacFarlane, c/o Hong Kong Electric Company, Limited, as early as possible please.

Personalia

Dr. Michael Herbert Watt, former Director-General of Health in New Zealand, will be head of ICER Far East Mission, with Mr. Godwin as his Deputy. They left the United States on December 6 to establish the Mission's Headquarters at Manila. After a week or two there, they hope to visit Singapore to discuss ICER programmes for U.K. territories.

Before leaving New York Dr. Watt visited the U.K. Delegation.

Company Sergeant S. Huntley and Sergeant A. D. Dillen arrived in Hong Kong from Singapore yesterday by the ss. Anhui. They are stationed at Stanley Barracks.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. G. Knowles and Mrs. G. M. Melcher, left for Anoy yesterday by the ss. Anhui.

Mr. and Mrs. Turner, Miss B. Turner and Miss L. Turner left for Swatow yesterday by the ss. Anhui.

Among the departures from the Peninsula Hotel on Wednesday were Mr. and Mrs. V. Oldham, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Oldham, Miss M. E. Barrett, Messrs. Low Shoon-kam, Tan Kwang, S. Kern, Wellington Koo, Chas. L. Collinson, S. Singh, E. R. Van Kaevel, A. J. De Jong, R. Van Kaevel, Lieutenant Commander C. Pearson, and Lieutenant M. H. Smit.

New arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel on Wednesday included Mrs. S. Taylor, Mrs. M. A. Molay, Mrs. H. L. I. Lewis, Colonel and Mrs. D. M. Houghton, Mrs. C. S. Flegg, Mr. and Mrs. Tara Singh, Mr. and Mrs. R. Kallabak, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. L. White, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. B. Tippet, Messrs. A. T. Samson, I. R. H. D. Kave, A. F. Anderson, C. Rendell, B. D. Cayford, L. H. Parker, C. B. Hall, H. Moskow, V. N. Williams, J. Casey, G. Jenkins, M. Gana, A. Santos, H. Schreuder, C. Gledhill, W. B. Becker, J. V. Seefried, C. J. D. Gaffery, J. W. Brock and J. O'Banion.

M. Ossorne, M. Lollot, M. Ha Tom, M. Afouline, and M. Tam Fu arrived in Hong Kong yesterday from Indo-China by Air France.

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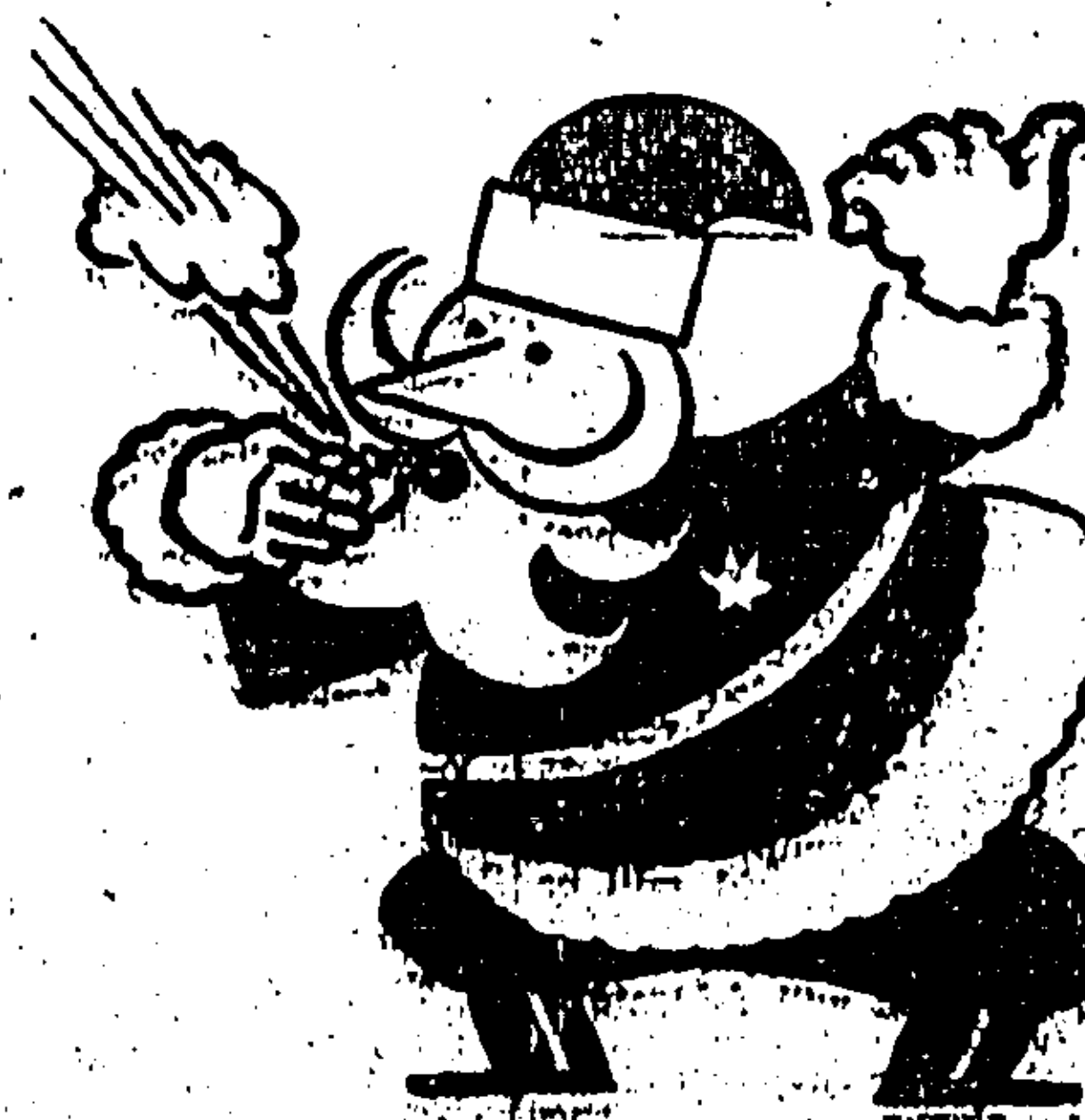
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A MIRACLE



John Payne and Maureen O'Hara make a pleasant couple in the light and airy phantasy particularly appropriate at the present time, "Miracle On 34th Street."

Frolics In Phantasy

As there is a certain surprise element in "Miracle On 34th Street" there is really little which should be said about it here. However, it seems reasonable to offer a fairly strong recommendation to go and pay your dollar at the King's and spend a while in the restful atmosphere of a sort of fairyland.

That mention of fairyland should not be taken literally. "Miracle" is not an "Alice in Wonderland" or anything like it. But it has the elements of a fairy story while retaining a robust honesty which is certainly refreshing.

Some will think it silly. Some will find it too cloying a sweetener for the sophisticated palate. But there must be many who have clung to enough of their child hood, without becoming downright pinhead, to enjoy it thoroughly.

Most important of the cast is Edmund Gwenn and he is, as usual, very good indeed. He is fortunate in this case in having fairly responsive and not too hammy colleagues in John Payne and Maureen O'Hara. Also present in quite an important way is Natalie Wood who seems rather more pleasant and rather less friendly than most of the little Hollywood children who accost the public eye from time to time. (20th Century Fox)

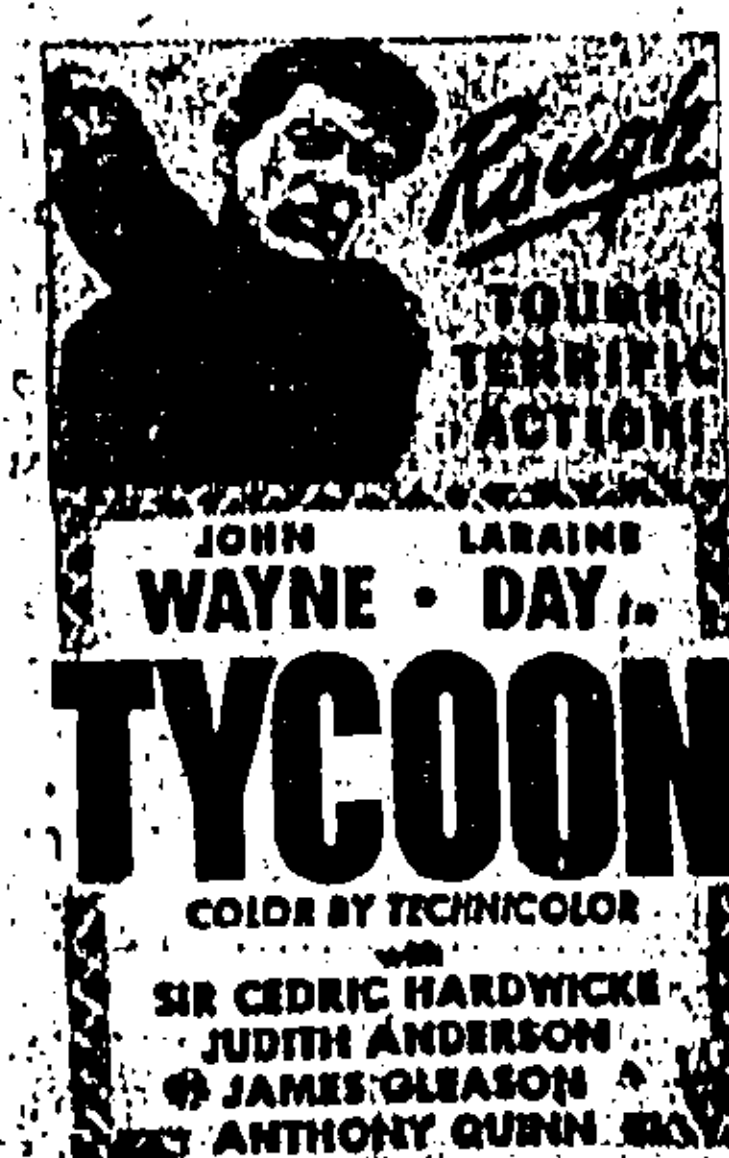
China War In Newsreel

"China's Darkest Hour" is the title given to the first part of an MGM newsreel showing currently at the Queen's. Starting with a few shots of Madame Chiang Kai-shek arriving at the Marshall home in the U.S., it covers on to show Nationalist activity in Haichow shortly before the city fell to the Communists. The display of tanks and guns, and the Red prisoners lined up in the street, is quite impressive but not nearly as much as the scenes in the latter part of the sequence in which the swirling tide of refugees crowds the roads from the city.

The second item on the reel will test the strongest stomach. With lots of enthusiastic blarney on the part of the commentator, a Japanese children's band (mostly mouth-organs) in Tokyo is shown playing a spirited version of "Yankee Doodle." The complete lack of expression on the children's faces is that which only the Japanese can achieve.

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NEXT CHANGE
"TOP HAT"
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CINEMA WORLD

MICKEY ROONEY CHANGES SPOTS

To the Queen's this week comes what the customary Hollywood blurb would call a "suspense-packed action-drama." This should be enough to send discriminating patrons screaming for the fresh outdoors, but don't be too hasty. The film is called "Killer McCoy" and is illuminated by the starry light of Mickey Rooney and Ann Blyth.

If you are one of the many who feel a sudden attack of nausea coming on whenever the name "Andy Hardy" is mentioned, or if you feel that several musicals in the last few years would have been pretty good if it had not been for the presence of a certain abbreviated clown with an infinite capacity for overacting, you will probably shy away from this film like an over-sensitive chamois. And that will be a great mistake.

Rooney has either changed or has been changed from the coy to the McCoy—the real McCoy. The title of the film conveys about as much as would "Nameless Day" or "The Plumber's Mate" for "Chummy Brown." It is not a gangster story though there are several shady characters in it. It is not a Western—nearly a horse; it is a drama of the ring (boxing—not circus).

Not unlike "Body and Soul" in many ways, "Killer McCoy" is far more believable. Whereas John Garfield strode through his part with jaw, out-thrust and fists clenched, Rooney manages to look natural most of the time in spite of his falling of stalling into a room with his feet about a yard apart and his legs ramrodded.

Tommy McCoy is a rough young diamond from the New York slums who takes up boxing and eventually becomes a champion. Midway through his career he kills a man in the ring, thus earning the nickname "Killer." To play on the pulchre a little, the deceased happens to be the man who taught young Tommy to fight in the first place, and who was his best friend. To the cynical this might seem to be poetic justice, but needless to say it is not played that way in the film.

The climax is reached when Tommy is to fight for the championship of the world—the "world" as usual being used as a loose translation of "United States Of America." At the critical moment Tommy's father (James Dunn), love's young dream (Ann Blyth, nice dreaming, too), and a bunch of assorted rascals become tangled up together with the net result our Tommy has to "throw" the fight in the eighth round or resign himself to finding replacements for both father and girlfriend.

This final fight scene is a masterpiece of direction and photography and is one of the greatest indictments of professional boxing yet filmed. All the suspense in the world is created by Tommy's need to keep the fight going till the eighth round and his equal compulsion to avoid taking any chances on knocking his opponent out before then. He is taking a sackful of punishment, being battered to a pulp, and the crowd is fairly slobbering with excitement.

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Love And Poison In Equal Doses

It is a little difficult to see why "Temptation" (starting at the King's today) should have been given that title. Unless of course it is meant to deceive the public into believing they are going to see the dance of the seven veils performed by Merle Oberon. Any anticipation of this will lead to disappointment. Miss Oberon remains adequately covered throughout and does no dancing.

Not does she slink around tempting every male in sight. Her role (as Ruby) is that of a career girl with lucrative marriage as her business. In this she is portrayed as being eminently successful. Hard as nails, but considerably more shapely, she hooks Nigel, a prominent archaeologist (George Brent) who takes her to Egypt where he is engaged in foinckling among the sands of the desert for the tomb of Rameses the fifth.

After a time Ruby finds the going a bit slow in her palatial mansion in Cairo, what with the chief diversion being dinner parties at which the depths of Egyptology are plumbed regularly and monotonously, so she leaps at an opportunity to indulge in a little extramarital frolicking with a character called Baroud.

This is Charles Korvin, who wears an expression of ingrained cynicism with considerably more aplomb than he does a fez. In the latter he looks slightly ridiculous, an impression which is enhanced by his mightily cleft chin. This canyon-like depression



Slightly pulpier after a strenuous period of falling in the ring, Mickey Rooney receives a little commiseration from girlfriend Ann Blyth in "Killer McCoy."

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TEMPTING?



The waxen but glamorous beauty of Merle Oberon does much to make "Temptation" a successful screen version of Robert Hichens' novel "Bella Donna."

Handful Of Chills

If you care to let your imagination ride along on the crest of the chilly wave which is "The Beast With Five Fingers" quite a solid wedge of entertainment may be found at the Lee from today. "The Beast" sets out to call the nerve-end to attention and succeeds admirably more than once.

In a nutshell the story concerns the results of the death of a retired, semi-invalid concert pianist who, in life, had an odd style of playing with his left hand. The hand is discovered to have been cut from the corpse, whereupon its of the fingers begin to come on thiel and fast.

Andrea King is appealingly terrified as the sweet nurse who attended to the hand and its owner while they were still attached.

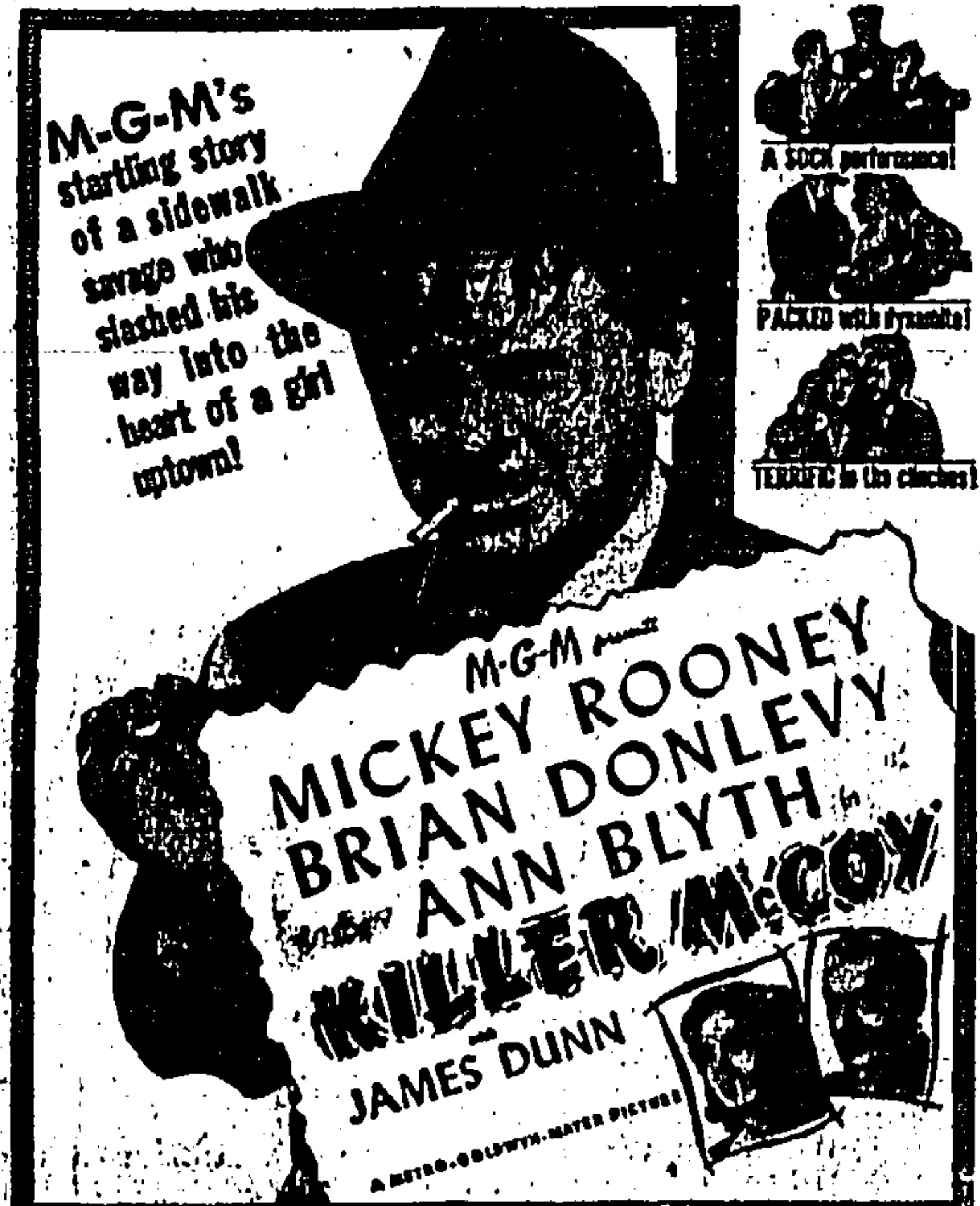
Robert Aida, who played George Gerahwin in "Rhapsody in Blue" is once more cast as a composer. He has quite a busy time as he has to clown a little and make love to Mir King as well as compose.

Popular vote for the star most likely to give the audience the loud-pedal creeps is, of course Peter Lorre. His tussles with a disembodied, murderous hand are well up to standard. Anyway, his baby-face innocence has such a quality that with most onlookers the goose-pimples start burgeoning as soon as he appears. (Warner).

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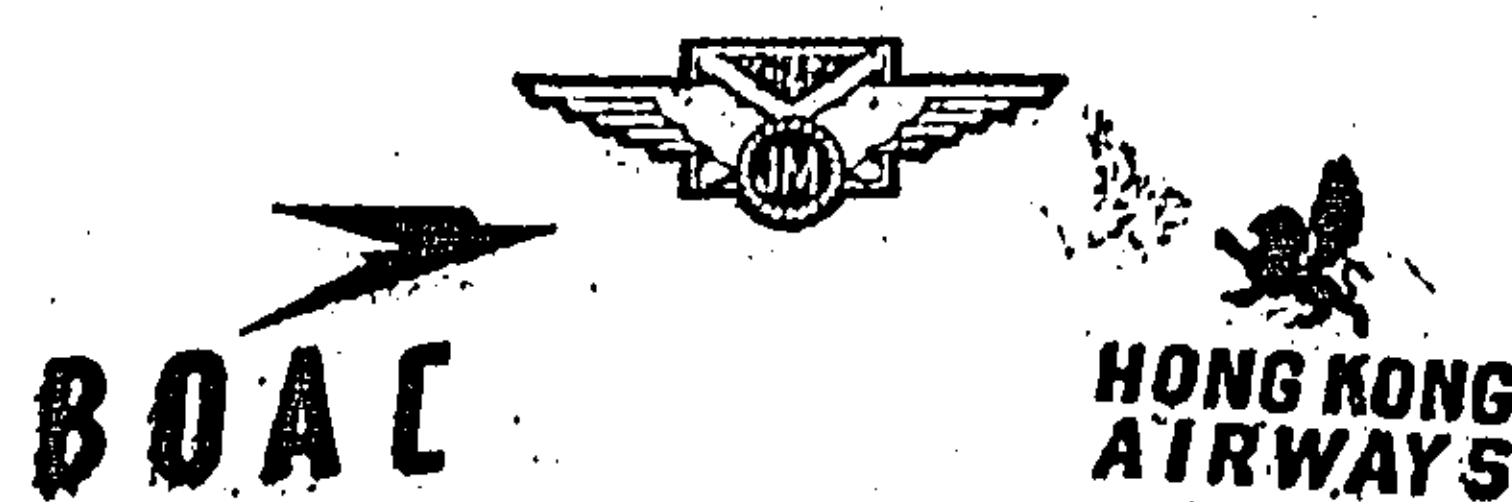
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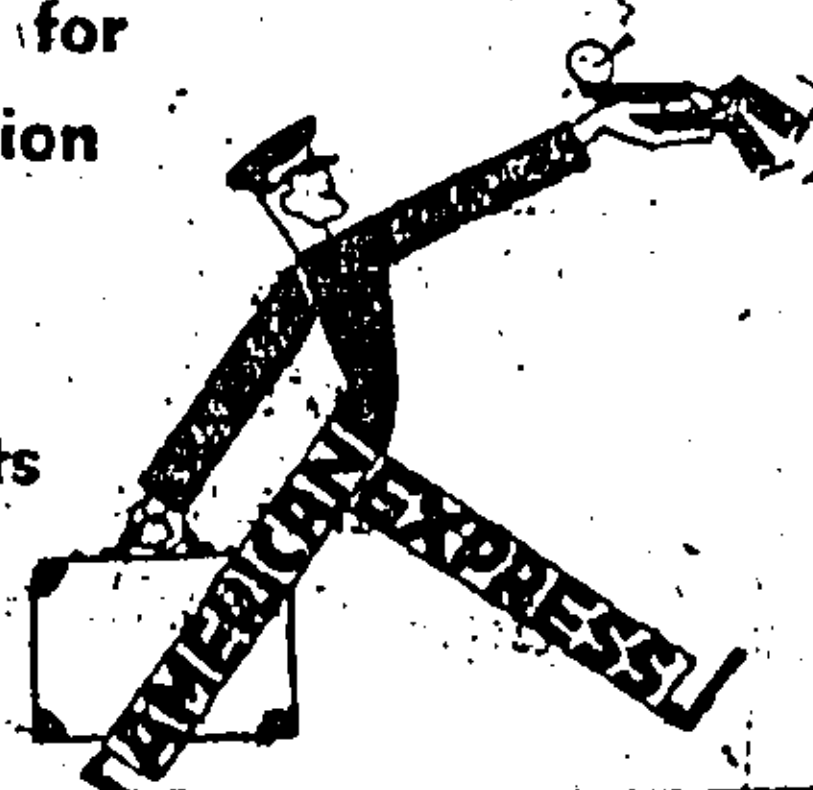
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FATE OF THE CRICKET GROUND

The longer consideration is given to the Government announcement of its intention to uproot the Hong Kong Cricket Club and to hand over the ground to the proposed H.K. Defence Force as a recreational centre, the more difficult it is to accept as reasonable or justified. We hold no brief for the Club or its members, but the logic of the position surely is that if it is the official view that no hardship is imposed in requiring them to go to Happy Valley for their games, the same must equally apply to members of an entirely new, and as yet, nebulous, organisation. The motive, a means to an end, is understood, but the introduction of that hard philosophy does not render palatable a decision with an unpleasant flavour. As we said yesterday, the figures of enrolment into the new Defence Force which the Government envisages are likely, there is good reason to fear, to err on the distinctly optimistic side. Moreover, assuming the Government does get recruitment on the scale that is deemed to be essential, and from the younger generation, it is virtually certain that a survey would reveal the great majority of volunteers to be members of one or other of the numerous sporting clubs in the Colony, and able for the large part to take full care of their own recreational facilities. It is perhaps desirable that Volunteers should have a ground of their own, but on the merits of the case, having regard to the past history of the H.K.C.C., its various contributions to the life of the Colony over a period of nearly a hundred years and the special characteristics of the service it today provides for its 800 members, to offer this particular ground as a bait for perhaps otherwise hesitant individuals and get them into the Defence Force, has little to commend it. And the presentation of the decision to the Club as a fait accompli has still less. Feeling on this score would have differed materially had the Government declared itself as planning to use the Cricket Club ground for civic purposes of another order. If, for instance, the Colony had learned that at long last the Government had made up its mind to meet the crying need for a City Hall providing accommodation for the Municipal Council, library, museum, municipal theatre, etc. and so on—in these circumstances there would have been little to encourage the Cricket Club to raise its voice in protest, and the rest of the community would have had something to applaud. Imagine a plan to sell half the extensive area of the ground in order to finance the construction of an attractive Civic Centre on the other half, and it might well have been felt (albeit with astonishment) that progressive minds were genuinely at work in the Civil Service. But to banish the Club for the reasons now disclosed is a bird of a different feather.

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At the same time the President had suggested to Mr. Churchill that acceptance of this arrangement would logically throw the Mediterranean command to the British, where British Empire forces would be expected to provide the bulk of the ground and naval strength. The President had tentatively decided, King said, to give the Overlord command to Marshall, against the urgent and persistent advice of King and others who dreaded the consequences of Marshall's withdrawal from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

During the admiral's explanation General Marshall remained completely silent; he seemed embarrassed. Admiral King was generous enough to say that only because he was personally slated to take Marshall's place in Washington could he give the plan with anything less than consternation, but that he still felt it a mistake to be shifting the key members of a winning team into declared he was going to renew his arguments to the President.

While the Prime Minister had spoken of his earlier, a few days earlier at Malta, this was the first time I had heard any American discuss the Overlord command, except on the basis of rumour and speculation. Admiral King's story agreed in such exact detail with what the Prime Minister had told me that I accepted it as almost official notice that I would soon be giving up my command to return to Washington.

Incidentally, the Prime Minister, although he was disappointed that Brooke would not get the Overlord assignment, had spoken with considerable satisfaction over the prospect of Marshall's appointment. He said, "It is the President's decision; we British will be glad to accept either you or Marshall." Then he added, "Marshall's appointment will certainly insure that the American Government will put everything available into the enterprise. He has already said that 'they always did,' but said that this development would tend to attract even greater intensity. With his usual concern for personal feelings, Mr. Churchill assured me that he was delighted with the results so far achieved in the Mediterranean, but that I would understand the wisdom of the future Overlord command and I came to realise, finally that it was a point of intense

FRANCE DEPARTS AN ITALIAN

A delegate from the Italian Confederation of Labour, Giorgio Bocchini, was reported to have been in France, inspecting the Surreal Nationalist escorted Bocchini to the Italian frontier.

THE THIRTY-FIFTH INSTALMENT

CRUSADE IN EUROPE

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's Own Story Of The War In Europe



I wandered off to inspect some burnt-out tanks while the President and his War driver had their lunch. When I returned he remarked: "Ike, if one year ago, you had offered to bet that on this day the President of the United States would be having his lunch on a Tunisian roadside, what odds could you have demanded?" This thought apparently directed his mind to the extraordinary events of the year just past. He told me, first, what a disappointment it had been to him that our African invasion came just after, instead of just before, the 1942 elections. He spoke of Darlan, of De Gaulle and Giraud. He talked of De Gaulle and Giraud, and of the uncertainty he had felt during the Kasserine affair. He told of instances of disagreement with Mr. Churchill, but earnestly and almost emotionally said, "No one could have a better or sturdier ally than that old Tony!" Mr. Roosevelt seemed to be enjoying himself sincerely, but his reminiscences were interrupted by a Secret Service man who approached to say, "Mr. President, we've been here longer than I like. We should go on now." The President grinned and said to me, "You are lucky you don't have the number of bosses I have."

The Secret Service had objected strenuously to the battlefields tour for the President but I felt as well acquainted with conditions that I thought the trip was perfectly safe. Because of the fact that it was a surprise move, executed without warning to anyone, it tended to add to rather than detract from the degree of safety enjoyed by the President.

To give General Marshall and Admiral King some release from the restrictions that inevitably accompany travel with the President, I invited the two of them to stay at my little cottage in Carthage. Both were outspokenly delighted to have the opportunity for a quiet evening, and both seemed to me to be in splendid health and spirits. In a few minutes conversation Admiral King brought up the subject of future command of Overlord. He said that in early discussions between the President and the Prime Minister it had apparently been agreed that a British officer would be named to the post, possibly because an American was already commanding in the Mediterranean. Later, when the President came to realise that American strength in Overlord would eventually predominate over British, he decided that public opinion would demand an American commander. He so informed the Prime Minister, who agreed although the agreement cost him some personal embarrassment because he had already promised Alan Brooke the command.

At the same time the President had suggested to Mr. Churchill that acceptance of this arrangement would logically throw the Mediterranean command to the British, where British Empire forces would be expected to provide the bulk of the ground and naval strength. The President had tentatively decided, King said, to give the Overlord command to Marshall, against the urgent and persistent advice of King and others who dreaded the consequences of Marshall's withdrawal from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

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On the morning following my talk with Admiral King the President spoke briefly to me about the future Overlord command and I came to realise, finally that it was a point of intense

official and public interest back home. He did not give me a hint as to his final decision except to say that he dreaded the thought of losing Marshall from Washington. But he added, "You and I know the name of the Chief of Staff in the Civil War, but few Americans outside the professional services do." He then added, as if thinking aloud, "But it is dangerous to monkey with a winning team. I answered nothing except to state that I would do my best wherever the government might find use for me."

On the second day the President and his party departed for Cairo, leaving personal orders with me to join the conference in that city within two or three days. Accompanied by my principal commanders, except for Alexander, who was ill, we proceeded to Cairo to present our views concerning the forces in the Mediterranean.

Trips such as these gave me an opportunity to provide a break for members of my personal staff. Since these individuals normally had little to do during my absence from headquarters, I would invite them, in such numbers as could be accommodated in my plane, to go with me on these journeys. Consequently always greeted with considerable satisfaction news of an impending trip to a distant point because some four to six of them could count on a vacation to strange places and interesting sights. Officers, enlisted men, and Wacs seized a number of well-earned opportunities that otherwise could not have come to them.

So far as there was discernible

any difference between the professional views of the British and American groups it appeared to me and to my associates at the Cairo Conference that the British still favoured a vigorous and all-out prosecution of the Mediterranean campaign even, if necessary, at the expense of additional delay in launching Overlord; while the Americans declined to approve anything that would detract from the strength of the attack to be delivered across the Channel early in the following summer. The Americans insisted upon examining all projects for the Mediterranean exclusively in the light of their probable assistance to the 1944 cross-Channel attack; on the other hand, the British felt maximum concentration on the Italian effort might lead to an unexpected break that would make the Channel operation either unnecessary or requiring more than a mopping-up affair.

The Prime Minister and some of his chief military advisers still looked upon the Overlord plan with sincerely concealed misgivings; their attitude seemed to be that we could avoid the additional and grave risk implicit in a new amphibious operation by merely pouring into the Mediterranean all the air, ground, and naval resources available. They implied that by pushing the Italian campaign, invading Yugoslavia, capturing Crete, the Dodecanese, and Greece, we would deal the Germans a serious blow without encountering the admitted dangers of the full-out effort against North West Europe. My own staff, including its British

members, and I continued to support the conclusions reached a year and a half previously that only in the cross-Channel attack would our full strength be concentrated.

Because, later, the landing in Normandy was successfully accomplished without abnormal loss, it is easy to ignore the very real risks and dangers implicit in the plan. Had we encountered there a disastrous reverse those who now exult in the concern with which some looked forward to the prospect would have been loudest in condemning the others who insisted upon the validity of the plan. One thing that opponents feared was a repetition of the trench warfare of World War I.

The British had vivid and bitter memories of Passchendaele and Vimy Ridge. None of us wanted any repetition of those experiences. Moreover, the Dieppe raid of the summer of 1942 did not promise any easy conquest of the beaches themselves. That raid, carried out by a strong force of Canadians, had resulted in a high percentage of losses. From it we learned a number of lessons that we later applied to our advantage, but the price paid by the Canadians still rankled.

Mindful of such past experiences, a number of persons, among them some Americans, were moved to consider the wisdom of avoiding the risks of a Channel crossing and, instead, to push the Italian and other campaigns in the Mediterranean to the limit of Allied ability.

However, I never at any time heard Mr. Churchill urge or suggest complete abandonment of the Overlord plan. His conviction, so far as I could tell, was that at some time in the indefinite future the Allies would have to cross the Channel. But he seemed to believe that our attack should be pushed elsewhere until the day came when the enemy would be forced to stand again for the presidency.

One evening General Marshall asked me with some others to dinner. It was a splendid American dinner with turkey and all that goes with it. As the guests were leaving, one said to General Marshall, "Thank you very much for a fine Thanksgiving dinner."

I turned around in complete astonishment and said, "Well, that shows what war does to a man. I had no idea this was Thanksgiving Day."

A personally pleasing incident of the Cairo trip was an order from the Chief of Staff that I take two days' rest and recreation. I employed them for a quick visit to Luxor, site of the ancient Egyptian city of Thebes, and a visit of a few hours to Jerusalem and Bethlehem. This was my first glimpse of these ancient and the intense interest that I felt in viewing the remains of ancient civilisations came closer than anything else during the war to lifting briefly from my mind the constant preoccupation with military problems.

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS GROUP OF ADVISERS went on to Tehran from Cairo, but I returned to my own theatre. Forward headquarters were then in the process of moving the entire main headquarters to that location in change that I felt necessary. By such a move I could be closer to the scene of operations. Moreover, our affairs in Africa were no longer so important because our need for the African ports would constantly diminish as shipments could be made directly from the homelands into captured Italian ports. Another reason for moving was to permit concentration of command and logistical systems solidly in proximity to the battle line. Finally, it is always a good thing to move a headquarters when its personnel begin to get so well "dug in" as they were in Algiers—when directing staffs become too much concerned with the conveniences of living they grow away from troops and from the real problems of war.

To Be Continued

CANTONESE BY RADIO

BY S.K. LEE

Vocabulary:—
30. (hai) hai²
31. (ma) mah²
32. (ye) yeh
33. (mat) mut¹
34. (tso) dzoh
35. (kin) geen²

Useful phrases:—
(1) Dzoh² shun.
(2) Dzoy² geen².

Phrases:—
Mut¹ yeh? (or) Mee¹ yeh?
Dzoh mut¹ yeh? (or)
Dzoh mee¹ yeh?

Conversation:—
A. Dzoh² shun.
B. Dzoh² shun.

A. Nay lai dzoh mee, yeh ah²?

A. Ngaw lai geen² kui.
B. Kui m hai² nee¹ shue².

A. Kui hai² been¹ shue¹ ah²?
B. Kui hai² gaw² shue².

A. Kui hai² gaw² shue² dzoh mee¹ yeh ah²?
B. Kui hai² gaw² shue² dzoh yeh.

Nay hui² geen² kui mah²?
A. Ngaw m hui² geen² kui Dzoy² geen².

B. Dzoy² geen².

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The view presented by the Allied Headquarters staff to the Cairo Conference was that the immediate and prescribed purposes of the Italian campaign had already been accomplished, namely the capture of a line covering the Toggia battlefield with Naples as a port to meet logistic needs. We agreed that the greatest possible support to the north European campaign would be rendered by the Allied armies in the Mediterranean if they could promptly advance to and be concentrated in the valley of the Po. From that region Allied forces could threaten to enter France over the mountainous roads of the Riviera. They could develop an equal threat to advance North Eastward to Trieste and the Lubiana Gap into Austria and would be in position also to launch, over the shortest possible water distance, amphibious operations either against Southern France or across the Adriatic. But an advance to the Po, we believed, was possible during the winter of 1943-44 only in the event that the departure of troops from the Mediterranean to England be immediately halted and the Allied forces built up to maximum strength. We believed that with the troops then in sight there was no hope of attaining the valley of the Po before summer weather should again make possible air, land, and sea operations.

The point meant that a more modest objective had to be accepted in the Mediterranean, because to insure seizure of the Po Valley would necessitate withholding from the United Kingdom so many troops and so much vital equipment that the cross-Channel operation could not be undertaken in the spring of 1944.

My own recommendation, then as always, was that no operation should be undertaken in the Mediterranean except as a directly supporting move for the Channel

attack and that our planned redeployment to England should proceed with all possible speed. Obviously a sufficient strength had to be kept in the Mediterranean to hold what we had already gained and to force the Nazis to maintain sizable forces in that area.

This was the programme adopted by the Cairo Conference, and our shipment of troops and equipment to England continued without abatement. The psychological value of the capture of Rome was, however, emphasised to us, particularly by the Prime Minister.

Again I had an opportunity for private talks with the President, at one of which he informally presented me with the Legion of Merit. His conversation revolved more around postwar problems than those of immediate operations. He gave me his ideas on the post-hostilities occupation of Germany and listened sympathetically to my contention that occupation should become a responsibility of civil agencies of government as soon as the exigencies of war might permit. He mentioned domestic politics only to say that, much as he'd like to go back to private life, it looked as if he'd have to stand again for the presidency.

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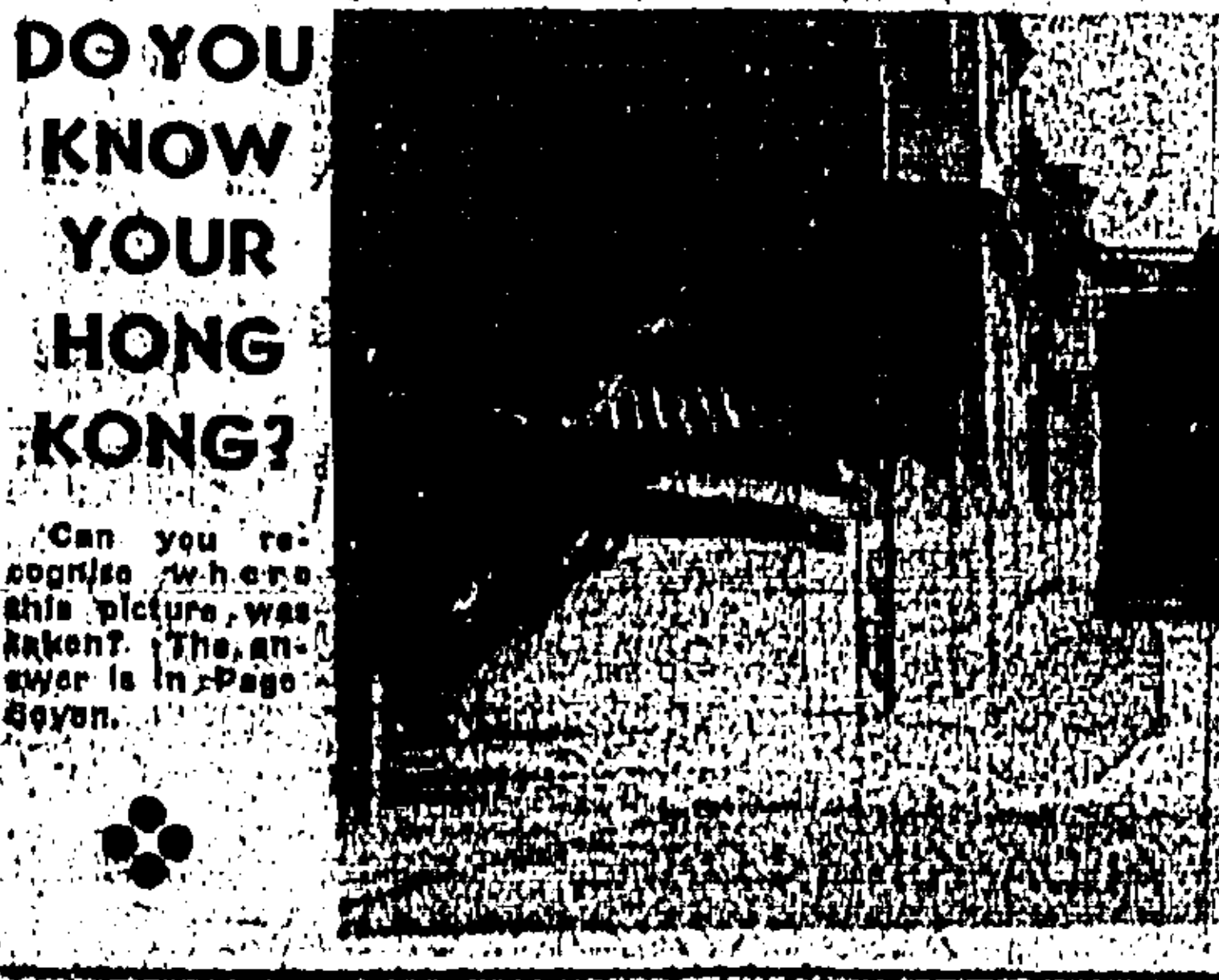
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MACAO

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FUTURE HEIR TO THRONE CHRISTENED AT PALACE

London, December 15.

Surrounded by members of the Royal Family, Prince Charles of Edinburgh, month-old son of Princess Elizabeth and second in line to the Throne, was christened by the Archbishop of Canterbury at Buckingham Palace today.

The baby behaved beautifully throughout the service. Sister Ellen Rowe, who nursed Princess Elizabeth in her confinement, held the infant Prince during the service but handed him to Princess Margaret, one of his sponsors, just before the Archbishop performed the christening ceremony.

Before handing the Prince to the Archbishop, Princess Margaret stood by the gold and silver-gilt font on its plinth of crimson velvet, adorned with white flowers, to speak the names—Charles, Philip Arthur George.

Children of the Royal Chapel choir sang two hymns, "Holy, Holy, Holy," and "Oh Worship the Lord." The baby wore the historic Royal christening robes of silk and Honiton lace.

The Archbishop, Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, in a short address, stressed the religious importance of the service and spoke of the duties undertaken by the eight sponsors.

Led by King George in morning clothes and the Queen in a dress and hat of flame red, members of the Royal Family entered the Music Room immediately before the service began.

The Princess

Princess Elizabeth looked extremely well. She wore a coat of almost the same shade of red as the Queen with an off the face hat of brown, trimmed with flame coloured silk.

The organist played Handel's Water Music in their red and gold Tudor uniforms filed in followed by the Archbishop of Canterbury in his golden cope and mitre and the Reverend M. Foxell, who assisted at the service.

Sister Ellen Rowe, in her blue and white nurse's uniform, then brought in the baby. When the half-hour service ended, Nurse Rowe carried the baby out and the Royal Family and their friends took tea and ate slices of the christening cake in nearby State rooms.

The Prince's eight sponsors were King George (his grandfather), Queen Mary (his grandmother), King George VI (his father), King Edward VIII (his uncle), King George V (his grandfather), King George VI (his father), King George V (his grandfather), King George VI (his father).

Two Proxies

The Earl of Athlone stood proxy for the King of Norway, and the Duke of Edinburgh, his father, stood proxy for Prince George of Greece.

King George, allowed by his doctors to attend the ceremony, showed no obviously noticeable signs of ill-health. About 50 guests attended the brief private ceremony.

Apart from the Royal Family and a few personal friends, members of the Court and of the household of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke were present with the doctors who attended the birth.

Guests included the Princess Royal, the Duchess of Gloucester, Princess Alice and the Earl of Athlone, Admiral Sir Alexander Ramsay and Lady Patricia Ramsay.

Rich-red damask curtains were drawn across the windows of the room and lights flickered from two magnificent chandeliers, reflecting on the white and gold ceiling.

Victoria's Robes

White flowers filled the tall stands. Around the font were narcissi, Christmas roses, freesia, carnations, white heather and myrtle.

The christening robes made at the order of Queen Victoria were given by her to Queen Mary who lent them for today's christening. Prince Charles had his first official press photograph taken and made his first appearance before newsmen cameras. His name was the 492nd entered in the Westminster birth register.

About 500 people—from American conscripted soldiers to Chinese diplomats—waited outside Buckingham Palace to watch the guests arrive. The first was the Archbishop of Canterbury. A few minutes later came an omnibus packed with choir boys already clad in their brilliant red tunics trimmed with gold brocade. The Duchess of Gloucester arrived with her younger son, Prince William, who will be seven years old next Saturday.

Perfect Subject

Prince William closed his eyes from the glare of flash bulbs as he went through the barrage of photographers. The photographers agreed that Prince Charles was the perfect subject. In just over half an hour he was photographed 16 times. For most of the time he slept peacefully in the arms of Princess Elizabeth, the Queen's daughter.

The King, who was also present, declined a chair offered him by the photographers. "I prefer to stand," he said. The Queen stayed for a few minutes with the cameramen, discussing photography in which she is very interested.—Reuter.

Russia Vetoes Ceylon For Second Time

Paris, December 15. Russia vetoed for the second time today Ceylon's application to join the United Nations during a short Security Council debate in which all other decisions were postponed.

The Council had defeated a Soviet move to adjourn Ceylon's application, and the final voting was nine in favour, with Russia and the Ukraine against.

Russia first vetoed the application last August.—Reuter.

Army Junta In Control Of Salvador

San Salvador, December 15. A revolutionary junta of three Army officers and two civilians was installed after an Army coup yesterday overthrew the President, Castaneda Castro, who is now held in Army barracks.

There was sharp street fighting between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. yesterday. El Zapote Barracks, military key to the city, opened the light against supporters of General Castaneda Castro. Colonel Juan Jose Solares, chief of cavalry, was killed and 10 persons wounded.

Members of the revolutionary junta are Manuel de Jesus Cordova, Major Oscar Osorio, Major Oscar Bohonos, Dr. Humberto Costa and Dr. Reinaldo Galindo Pohl.

Martial law, in effect since 10 p.m. yesterday, is to end at 4 a.m. tomorrow.

The resolution of the National Assembly, calling for an election to constitute the Assembly on December 16 and 17 with a view to re-electing General Castaneda Castro, was the signal for the Army revolt.—United Press.

Hiss Indicted On Perjury Counts

New York, December 16.

Alger Hiss, former State Department official, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury last night on two counts of perjury.

Hiss is on leave from a \$520,000 a year job as head of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Both charges, according to the indictment, alleged that on December 15, 1948, Hiss did unlawfully, knowingly and willfully commit perjury before the New York Grand Jury.

The jury, which has been investigating espionage in the Government, said it found untrue Hiss' denial that he gave secret State Department papers to Whittaker Chambers, a former Time magazine editor who has renounced Communism.

The charges originally had been levelled against Hiss' Chambers at hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Hiss repeatedly had denied the charges. Hiss issued a statement later saying his testimony was entirely truthful.

Nazis Fixed Gaolbreak

Brunswick, December 16.

Police headquarters today confirmed reports that a mysterious rescue squad had arranged a gaolbreak here to release a former Nazi Party official.

A former County Commissioner for the Nazis, Berthold Hellig, was awaiting execution for his part in the murder of a German State official here earlier this year.

Police reports, based on information provided by Hellig's wife, indicated that the gaolbreak might be more than a local affair.

The police said Mrs. Hellig reported that the gang's contact man had told her that the gang had plenty of money and was located at the Hotel Oito Skorzeny—the man who kidnapped Mussolini—from Dachau internment camp last summer.—United Press.

HUGH DALTON IN PARIS

Paris, December 14.

Mr. Hugh Dalton, leader of the British delegation to the European Unity Conference, arrived here tonight from London by air. Earlier he had landed at the London Tribunal which is investigating accusations of corruption in Government circles.—Reuter.

FIVE-POINT PLAN FOR DEFENCE OF AMERICA

Washington, December 15.

The Defence Secretary, Mr. James Forrestal, today unveiled a five-point programme to bolster national defence.

Meanwhile it is hinted that new atomic bomb tests are planned at the super-secret Eniwetok atoll proving grounds.

Mr. Forrestal also disclosed that General Eisenhower, former Chief of Staff and now President of Columbia University, had served as his personal adviser on general matters concerning military establishments. Summing up recent and proposed defence moves, Mr. Forrestal told a news conference that he had:

1. Appointed a group of top scientists and military leaders to study all types of weapons, including the atomic bomb, and recommending which would be best in the event of war.
2. Ordered all military sea transport, including 250 Army vessels, consolidated into one force under Navy command.
3. Drawn up plans to place all military shipments by land under control of the Army.

Bomb Tests

4. Arranged for joint use by the Army, Navy and Air Force of recruiting facilities and services at many places across the country.

5. Recommended to President Truman federalization of the Air National Guard and consolidation with the Air Force Reserve.

The prospect of new A-bomb tests in the Western Pacific was raised by the Atomic Energy Commission which said that the area surrounding Eniwetok will continue to be a danger area until further notice.

Eniwetok atoll and lagoon are permanently closed to outsiders. An ocean area roughly 200 miles square was declared a danger area for the calendar year 1948 and all unauthorized persons, foreign or American, wanted to keep out. Today's order extends the ban indefinitely.

Spokesmen for the agency will not say that new bomb tests will be held, but the order reminds that Eniwetok is the site of the

Higher Blast

Three improved bombs were tested there last spring. Little information was released, but scientists here have voiced the belief that the new weapons, because of more efficient design, get more blast power out of a given amount of atomic explosive than the 1945 models dropped on Japan.

Mr. Forrestal said that, in announcing the formation of a scientist-military group on war-time weapons, he considered the problem a matter of high importance. The group, which will not in an advisory capacity, was chosen carefully so that neither the military nor the scientists would have a stronger voice in the selection of weapons.—United Press.

Vichy Stogee Gets 10 Years

Paris, December 16.

The former Vichy Information Minister, M. Paul Marion, was today condemned to 10 years' imprisonment and national degradation for life after his trial in the French High Court on a collaboration charge.

During today's hearing, M. Marion described a meeting with Hitler in September, 1944, and told the Court.

"The Fuehrer told us in a firm voice: 'I have secret weapons compared with which the V-1 and the V-2 bombs are only children's toys. The English will be thrown back into the sea. This carnage will take place on French soil. It will be terrible, I ask the pardon of France and of God.'"

FLU EPIDEMIC

Geneva, December 15. The United Nations' World Health Organisation, quoting Italian health authorities, reported today that the widespread influenza epidemic in Italy is a mild form and gives no cause for alarm.

The disease is on an epidemic scale in Rome and has now spread to the Northern provinces.—Reuter.

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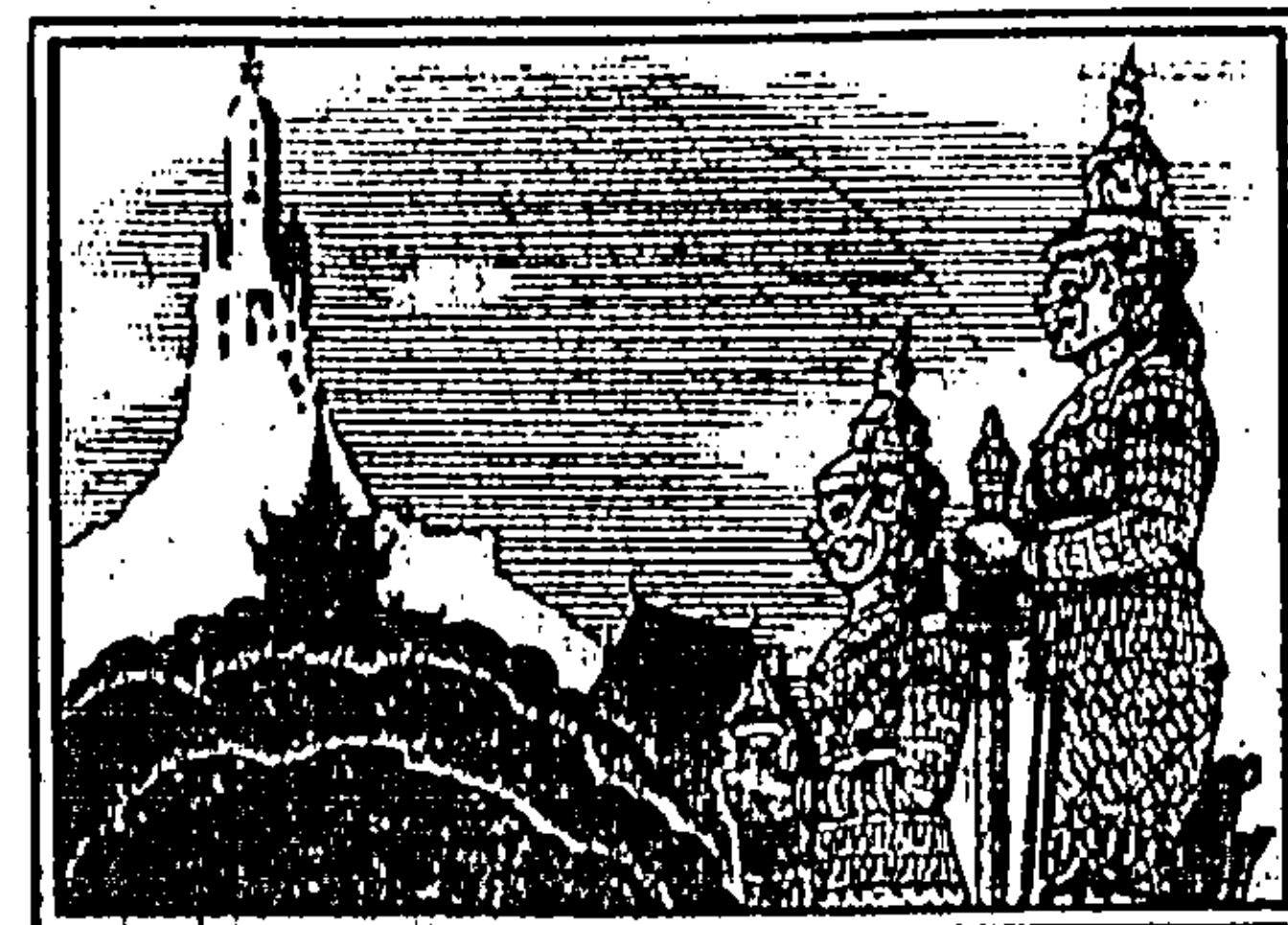
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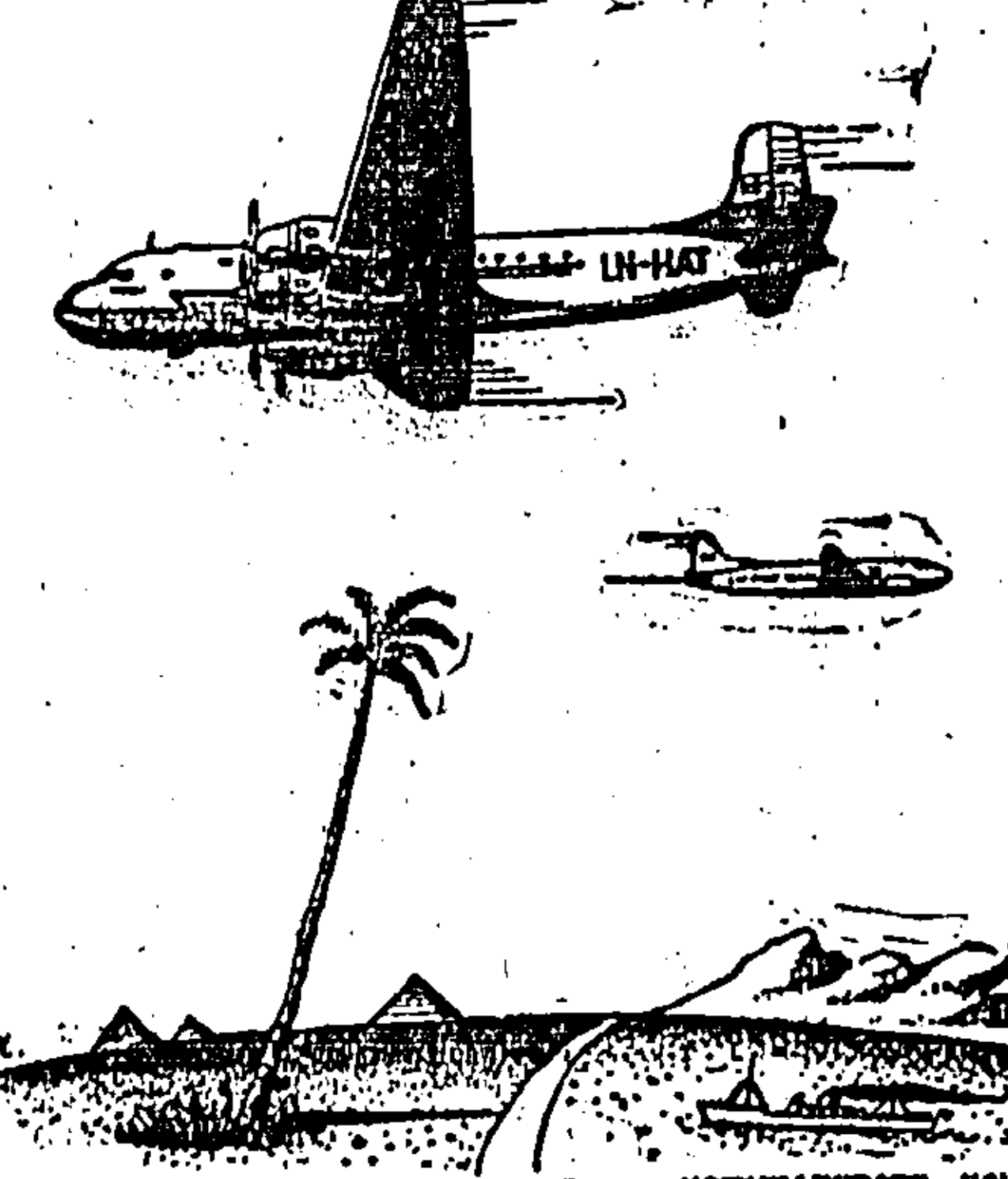
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SOVIET BUILDING BIG NAVY

Stockholm, December 15. The Soviet Union is building 45,000-ton battleships and also submarines fitted with the "schnorkel" (breathing device, or "snout") for her White Fleet, the Swedish naval publication, Marinkal Enden, said today.

Marinkal Enden, an unofficial publication which often reflects the views of the Swedish Admiralty, said that the new battleships, of the size of the United States battleship, Iowa, class, have nine 40.6-centimetre guns as their chief armament.

The Russian battleship plans are cloaked in deep secrecy, but one of the new vessels is nearly completed, it added.

The Soviet Union is building many German-type submarines with an underwater speed of 25 knots and a wide radius of action, Marinkal Enden said.

The "schnorkel" tube, a Dutch invention used towards the end of the war, enables submarines to stay submerged for lengthy periods.—Reuter.

Grim Atom Puzzle Still Unanswered

San Francisco, December 16.

The experts still don't know how much atomic bomb radiation it takes to kill a man.

This question—considered hush-hush—has not been answered by the Radiological Society of North America, which has handed the problem to 50 leading American scientists for solution.

Dr. L. Henry Garland, lifted the Society's self-imposed censorship to announce that it was unable to advise civilian, defence and military officials on one of the grim puzzles of the atomic war.

Instead, Dr. Garland said, the Society was raising a questionnaire to 50 leading radiologists, physicists, and biologists to ask their opinion about the death-dealing powers of atomic radiation.

From the detailed poll, the Society hopes to develop enough authoritative information to set up safety and medical standards in the event that any American city is hit by an atomic bomb.

Dr. Garland, president of the Radiological Society, said the questionnaire was decided upon at three secret meetings of scientists at the Society convention here last week.

The group of X-ray and atomic specialists originally had planned to discuss the hazards of radiation at an open round-table meeting, but later decided to bar the public from the forum.—United Press.

SCOTS' AID FOR FRENCH REDS

Paris, December 16.

The French Communist miners' leader, M. Celestin Blais, told Reuter today that his union had today received payment in francs of the £1,000 cheque sent them by the Scottish miners for relief of miners' families in distress during the recent coal strike.

The cheque had been held up by the French bank which received it.—Reuter.

Alleged Re-Sale Of ERP Goods

Washington, December 15.

Mr. Howard Bruce, acting Marshall Plan Administrator, declared today that the reductions made in requests for aluminium and lead by Britain and other Marshall Aid countries because of alleged misuse of those supplies will be restored if the allegations are proved false.

Mr. Bruce asserted that the Economic Co-operation Administration is not accusing Britain or any other country of bad faith, but is merely investigating what appears to be an unusually large flow of aluminium and lead re-exports from Europe to the United States.

Mr. Bruce read a statement from the Chief of the ECA mission in London, Thomas Finletter, suggesting the exports attributed to Britain, Holland and Belgium might merely have been supplies passing through those countries from some other point.

Condemning the British official protests that he made his statement while the dispute was under discussion, Mr. Bruce said: "Maybe we moved a little faster than we would have if there had been no publicity." He referred to stories about the aluminium problem that have appeared in the American trade press.—Reuter.

MONS. YU PIN IN HOLLAND

Amsterdam, December 15.

Monsieur Yu Pin, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Nanking, arrived in Amsterdam today, en route home after a visit to the Pope.—United Press.

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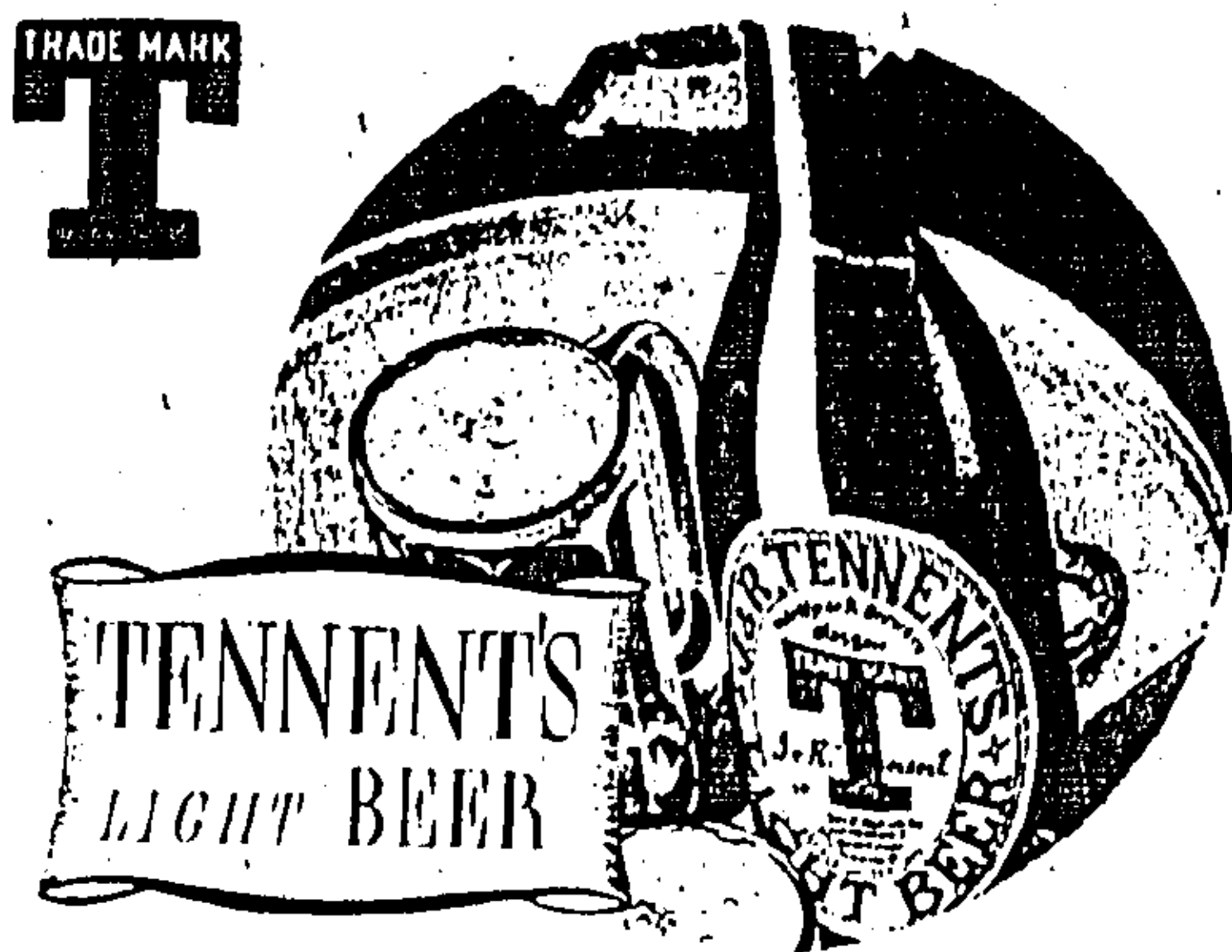
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ANOTHER MYSTERY IN MYSTERY WOMAN'S LIFE

Casablanca, December 15.
The mystery woman of the Near East has disappeared from Tangiers in unexplained circumstances. Among the adventures of the woman (Countess Marguerite d'Andurain) is said to have been a visit to the holy city of Mecca disguised as a Bedouin tribesman.

Nothing has been heard of the 53-year-old Countess since early last month when she was

reported in Tangiers in her yacht, Djellal, in which she was said to be planning to bring gold from the Belgian Congo for sale in Tangiers.

The Countess left her home on the morning of November 5 telling her maid she would return for lunch.

She did not return and has not been seen since.

The Agency France Presse reported that the police kept the matter secret in order not to prejudice their inquiries.

An expert in pearls and precious metals, the blonde Frenchwoman was thought in the two world wars to have had contacts with British, French and German secret services. A friendship with Lawrence of Arabia was spoken of.

Two Husbands

Her private life, described as complicated, has a spectacular background.

One husband, a Prague nobleman, was found killed with 20 dagger wounds in his body.

Another, the Bedouin Sheikh Soleiman, died mysteriously after taking her to Mecca.

A young nephew died in 1945 after being given a poisoned chocolate. A French court acquitted her of charges in connection with his death.—Reuter.

RADIO

This is Radio Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles per second and on 0.52 megacycles per second in the 31 metre band.

12.15 p.m.—Catholic Prayers by the Rev. Father E. Bourke, S. J. (Studio).

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

12.32 p.m.—Ambrose and His Orchestra (H.K.T.).

1.00 p.m.—The BBC Variety Orchestra Entertains (H.K.T.).

1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.25 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.

1.30 p.m.—Music for You.

1.40 p.m.—Close Down.

6.00 p.m.—Programme Summary.

6.04 p.m.—Children's Half Hour "Dragon Smoke Island" by Barnaby Twin.

(Studio).

6.30 p.m.—"Cantonese by Radio" given by Miss Lee Wei Lan and S. K. Lee. (Studio).

6.50 p.m.—An Interview with Betty Brown on her recent visit to London. (Studio).

7.00 p.m.—World and Home News. (London Relay).

7.15 p.m.—Sports Review. (Studio).

7.30 p.m.—"Here a Go!" A Quiz Programme Introduced by Wilfred Pickles. (H.K.T.).

8.00 p.m.—"From the Editorials" (London Relay).

8.10 p.m.—Fred Hartley and His Music. (H.K.T.).

8.25 p.m.—"Greatest" "Famous" Arts 4 and 5. Principals, Chorus and Orchestral. The Radio Opera conducted by Henri Busser.

9.15 p.m.—A Serial Story: "Here comes the Gaffer" by Henry Wade. Read by Clifford Davies. (Studio).

9.35 p.m.—Violin and Piano Recital by Fritz Kreisler & Rachmaninoff. (H.K.T.).

10.00 p.m.—Radio News Reel. (London Relay).

10.15 p.m.—Weather Report.

10.30 p.m.—"Sweet Serenade" by Peter Yarko and His Concert Orchestra with Paula Green and Steven Conway. (H.K.T.).

11.00 p.m.—"Think on These Things." (H.K.T.).

11.15 p.m.—Weather Report and Close Down.

Commissions For Naval Conscripts

London, December 15.
A decision that all national servicemen serving in the Royal Navy will have the opportunity of reaching officer rank during the period of their service, was announced by Mr. Dugdale, Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, in the House of Commons today.

Details of a similar scheme in the Royal Marines are being worked out, he said.—Reuter.

GOLD RUSH ON IN SHANGHAI

Shanghai, December 16.
More than 60 rival gangsters who attempted to fight each other in a mad rush for gold and silver were taken into police custody yesterday for failure to observe order in front of the four Government banks.

A second incident between police, watchmen and traffic police for priority in buying gold was narrowly avoided. Almost on the point of opening fire, two gangs of policemen were pacified by a spokesman of the China Bank.

Thurday scenes were again witnessed in front of the four Government banks as milling and jostling crowds battled for vantage points.—Reuter.

PAKISTAN AND INDIA AGREE

New Delhi, December 15.
India and Pakistan announced today that they have reached a very substantial measure of agreement on some of their problems.—Associated Press.

SHANGHAI GIRL'S PARENTS APPEAL

Lawrence, Massachusetts, December 16.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Sharkey said today that only intervention by President Truman could save their daughter-in-law, the former Miss Lydia Bowron, a Russian, from death at Communist hands.

The Sharkeys want to bring her to Lawrence from Shanghai and she has said: "I will commit suicide rather than die a slow death under political enemies."

In a telegram to President Truman, the Sharkeys said yesterday: "The widow of our hero son is in grave danger if she remains in Shanghai for another day. We have tried for more than a year to bring her to our home and necessary papers are in the hands of the American Consul in Shanghai."

"Our son transported Chinese and American soldiers and military materials to Major General Claire Chennault throughout the war and lost his life when his plane crashed in 1947. We want you to help us. Thank you and may God bless you."

Their son, Captain Thomas J. Sharkey, 26, is reported to have

made 508 wartime flights over "The Hump."

He married a refugee Russian girl in May 1946 and was employed by the Chinese National Airways when his plane crashed in the Shantung mountains killing all 43 persons aboard.—United Press.

DAKOTA CRASH KILLS 26

Bogota, December 15.
Twenty-six were killed when a Dakota of the Colombian Lanza Company crashed near Bogota this morning.

The plane, which left Bogota for Barranquilla at 10.30 a.m., was found six miles from Facatativa.

It had apparently crashed in flames after an engine failure. The dead include 22 passengers, the pilot and co-pilot.—Reuter.

LONDON BRIBE INQUIRY

Aliens Office Kept A Watch On Stanley

London, December 15.
Sidney Stanley, key figure in the Tribunal probing alleged corruption in Government circles, was said today to have been watched constantly since 1940 by officials seeking to enforce his deportation.

An official of the Aliens Office, Ernest George Warner, gave details of a deportation order said to have been made out in 1933 against Stanley and his brother, Marcus Wulkan, now in the United States.

Warner produced the order, which he said was made against Solomon Koshzyck, alias Reethand, known as Sid Wulkan and later as Sidney Stanley.

The police had been unable to trace Sid Wulkan from 1933 until 1940, when it was no longer possible to deport people to Poland. The deportation order against his brother, Marcus Wulkan, was recently revoked.

Earlier today, the 22nd day of the hearing, the Minister of Works, Mr. Charles Key, answered accusations made by anonymous letter writers.

The Tribunal Chairman said four letters had come to the Tribunal alleging that a company named Intrade Limited had received special consideration in materials and licences because Mr. Key and other Ministers were friends of a director.

One letter alleged that Captain Gordon Shiner, the director, had boasted to a newspaper reporter that he could obtain any materials he wanted, and had only to speak to a Minister to cut the red tape.

Close Friend

The Attorney General, Sir Hartley Shawcross, said another communication on the affair, from a journalist, had been found to be largely inaccurate.

Mr. Key agreed that he was a close personal friend of Captain Shiner, but insisted this

friendship had never affected any of his decisions as Minister of Works.

Mr. Key was shown letters addressed to him by Captain Shiner mentioning Intrade's applications for licences. He said these letters had never been presented to him personally, but had been opened by his department officials and replied to officially.

Captain Shiner told the Tribunal he had been on friendly terms with Mr. Key and his family for 20 years. He had once given Mrs. Key a miniature wireless set on her birthday, and had given the children books on their birthdays.

He said a Sunday newspaper report quoting him as saying he could approach Ministers and cut through red tape was a deliberate lie. He had never sought to exercise any improper influence on Ministers to get licences granted. He believed the anonymous letters sent to the Tribunal had been inspired by a personal enemy.

Belcher "Amazed"

Later, Sir Hartley Shawcross referred to a report from the United States which he had quoted previously to the Tribunal, describing Marcus Wulkan as an unmitigated scoundrel.

He had attributed it to the Proudfoot Agency but now it turned out the report was based on another but no less reliable source. He had also received papers from the Foreign Office tending to confirm the suggestion made in the report.

Senorita Roxas Wed

Manila, December 16.
The Independent Manila Chronicle said today that Ruby Roxas, daughter of the late President-Manuel Roxas, was married recently in Madrid to the son of a Manila physician and is now honeymooning in St. Moritz, Switzerland.

The groom was Vicente "Oxy" Roxas, son of Dr. and Mrs. Baldo Roxas of Batangas.

The two families, though bearing the same surname, are not related.

Ruby left for Europe last July 10 and had intended to enrol in a girls' finishing school in New York this winter.

The bride's mother, Mrs. Trinidad Deleon Roxas, is residing in Manila.—Associated Press.

Later, said the Sherman statement, Abe and his brother, Harry, met Mr. John Belcher. Harry told Mr. Belcher what Stanley had been saying about him—that he had bribed Mr. Belcher with £2,500 and that he had given him and Mrs. Belcher other gifts of money.

Mr. Belcher was amazed at the suggestion and said "Stanley is a dirty, lying little bastard."

Sir Hartley Shawcross announced that the evidence available for the Tribunal had been completed.—Reuter.

Communist Leaders Gathering

Warsaw, December 15.
A number of unknown passengers arrived in Warsaw this morning on a special plane from Moscow.

This event, and the expectation of the arrival tomorrow of two high East European statesmen, is giving rise to suggestions of a big international Communist gathering in Warsaw.

M. Dimitri Manuilsky, Ukraine Foreign Minister and a member of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party, also arrived unannounced in Warsaw today.

Leading Communists from 22 countries are at present in the Polish capital, attending a Unity Congress of the Polish Communist and Socialist Parties. Observers here are studying the possibility that a second and more significant meeting is taking place.

Manuilsky arrived by train from the General Assembly in Paris. He was met at Warsaw's main station by the Polish Foreign Minister, Sygmunst Modzilewski and the Soviet Ambassador, Viktor Lebedev. Lebedev drove to the Warsaw airport this morning to meet the unknown arrivals from Moscow.

Observers speculate that some Eastern reaction may be expected in the new move for an Atlantic pact by the Western Nations.—Reuter.

French Dead To Be Returned From Britain

Folkestone, December 16.
The bodies of 300 French soldiers and sailors, many of them victims of wounds received at Dunkirk, will be sent back to their homeland today.

These and the remains of about 300 more of their fellows, some of them Free French who died in the Battle of Britain and other operations, have been disinterred from British cemeteries.

The 300 who will not be sent back to France will be taken to Brookwood Cemetery near London for reinterment.

Before the bodies are sent across the Channel to Dunkirk today, there will be a ceremony at Dover harbour. The French Ambassador, Rene Massigli, and representatives of the French and British War Offices are expected to attend.

Upon arrival at Dunkirk the bodies, in metal coffins, will be taken to Amiens. From there they will be sent at the request of their families to their home towns and villages for burial.—Associated Press.

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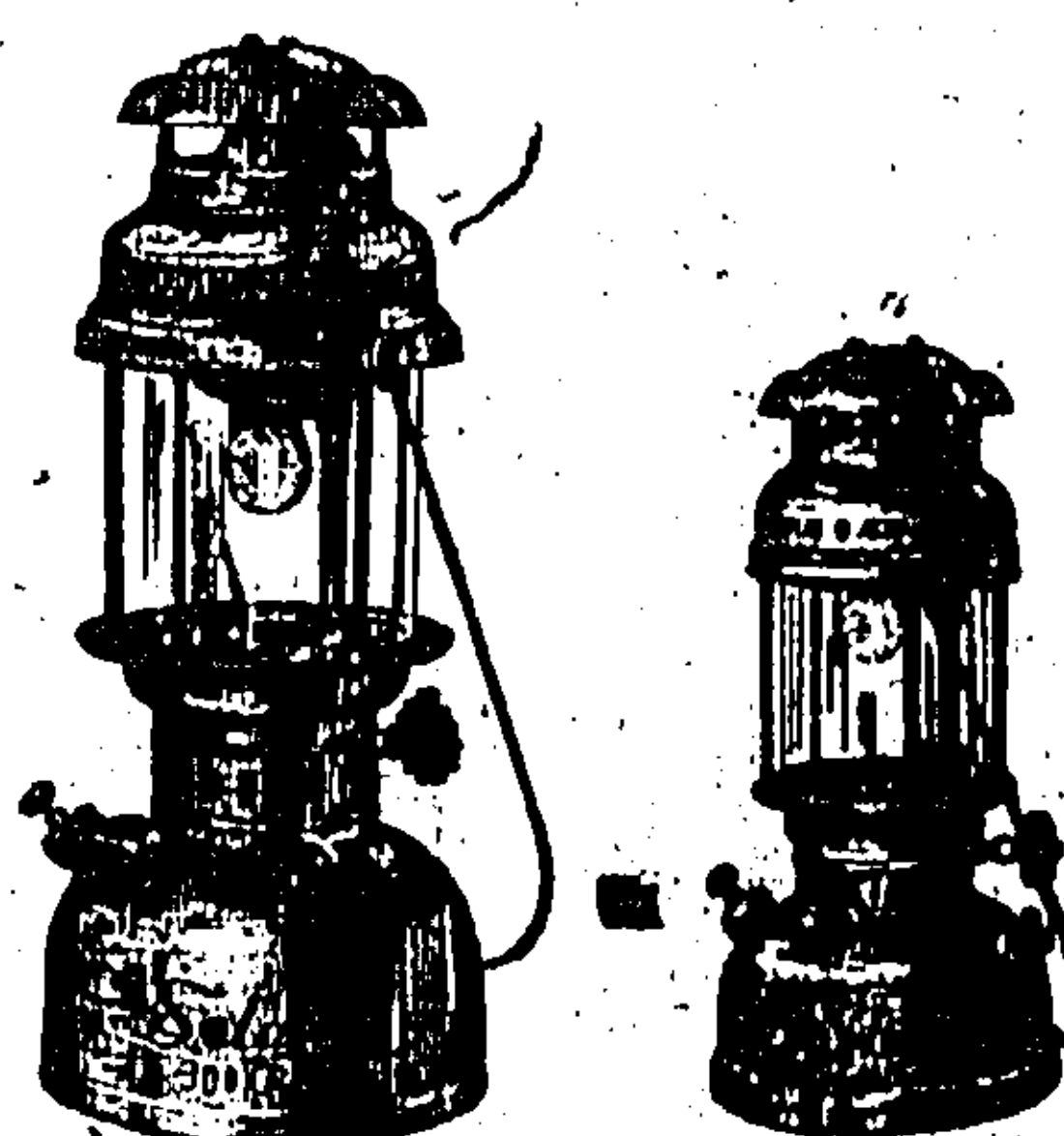
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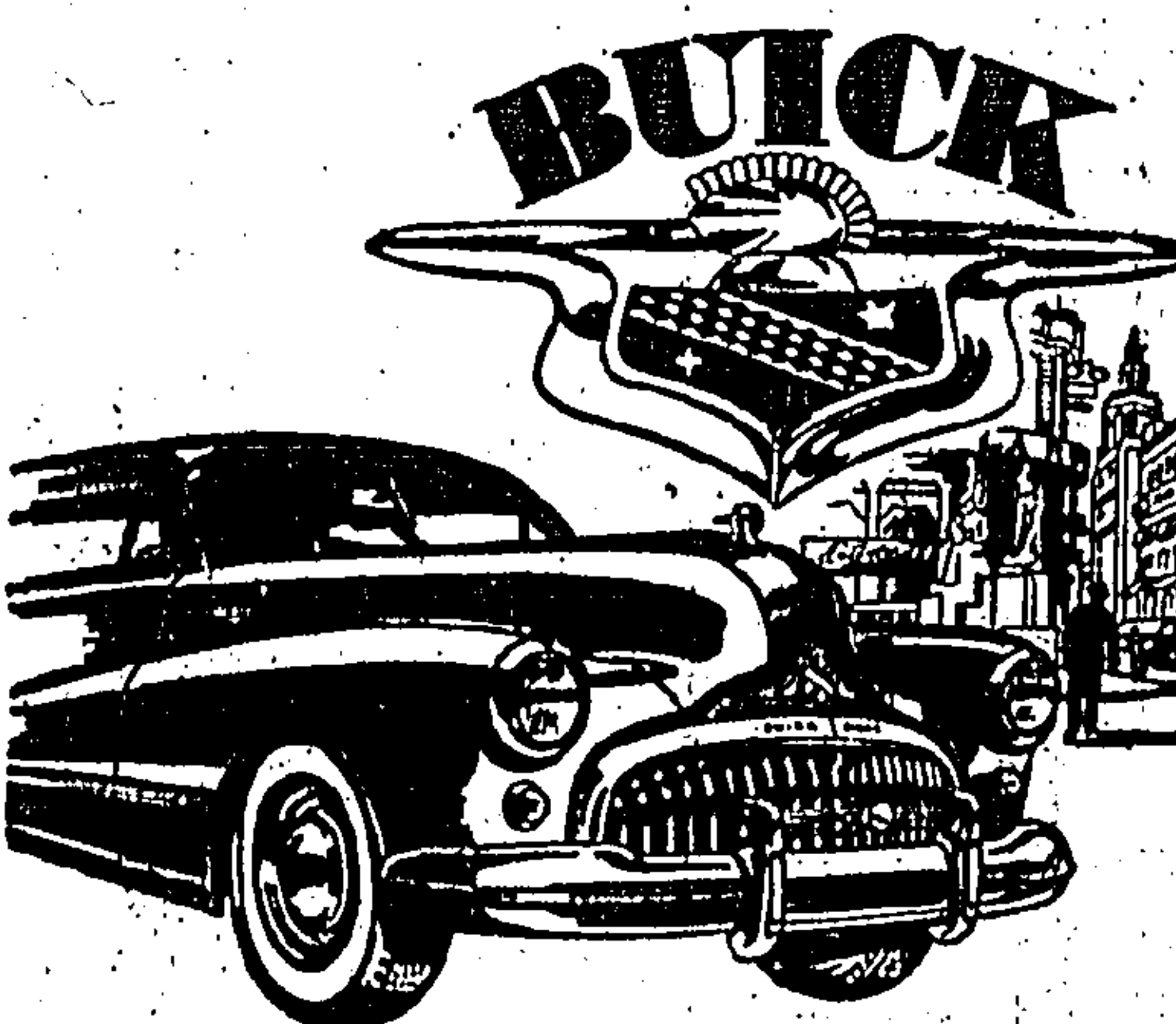
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AMERICA'S CHINA POLICY UNCHANGED, SAYS LOVETT

Washington, December 15.

The U.S. Under-Secretary of State, Robert Lovett, indicated today that Madame Chiang Kai-shek has been unsuccessful in her mission of obtaining stronger American support for the National Government.

Mr. Lovett said that American policy towards China calls for dealing with the Nationalist Government under General Chiang Kai-shek.

That policy, Mr. Lovett said, was determined by Congress and is being carried out by the Administration to the best of its ability within the limitations (presumably he meant Congressional limits on the volume of aid).

A journalist asked Mr. Lovett, "Has there been any change in American policy towards China or in the aid programme as a result of Madame Chiang's visit here?"

Mr. Lovett said that there has been no change in American policy towards the Nationalist Government under Chiang.

U.S. Administration, he said, is doing its utmost under the policy laid down and is going forward within its limitations.

The United States, Mr. Lovett said, is sticking to the policy laid down by the U.S. Congress last session, under which limited aid has been given to Generalissimo Chiang's Nationalist regime.

Congress voted \$125,000,000 for military and \$275,000,000 for economic aid.

In giving this assistance, Mr. Lovett said, the United States deals only with the Chinese Government headed by the Generalissimo. He disclaimed knowledge of reports, current in Nanking, that Generalissimo Chiang might be replaced by a Coalition Government.

Hands Off Policy

Mr. Lovett did not foreclose the possibility that Mme. Chiang's appeal might have some effect on any future Administration recommendations to Congress for China aid.

But what Mr. Lovett said added up to a hands off attitude on the part of the United States toward the whole China situation at a moment when Generalissimo Chiang's own capital, Nanking, is seething with rumors of political upheaval and talk of the possibility that he himself might resign and come to the United States.

In fact, other informants here said that the American Government is following strict non-intervention in China's internal affairs. The reasons for this appear to be:

1. The U.S. Government does not have an assuredly workable solution to offer and
2. It does not want to underwrite the future unconditionally for any group—including Chiang and his followers.

Mr. Lovett was told by one questioner that the Government's last previous policy statement on China favoured a Communist coalition with Generalissimo Chiang and was asked, "Is that still our policy?"

He said he did not admit the part of the question saying that the United States had favoured a Communist coalition Government. Then he declared that our policy under which this Government is now operating is the one laid down by Congress and under it the U.S. deals with the Nationalist Government of China led by the Generalissimo.

The question regarding Mme. Chiang's accomplishments here, was put to Mr. Lovett in this manner:

"Has there been any change in the American policy towards China or the aid programme as a result of Mme. Chiang's visit here?"

Mr. Lovett said that there had been no change and that the Government was doing its best to carry out the policy laid down by Congress within its limitations.

While he thus revealed the United States in the position of standing aside from any all-out commitment to support Generalissimo Chiang, Mr. Lovett also avoided any responsibility for statements made in China by the Economic Co-operation Administration, Mr. Paul Hoffman. Those statements had been interpreted as favouring, whether deliberately or not, a Coalition Government to supplant Generalissimo Chiang.

Hoffman Tour

Mr. Lovett was asked for a report on his talk with Mr. Hoffman before the aid chief set out on his present fast swing around the world.

He replied that the conversation was concerned with what American aid policy was and not what it would be. They talked, he said, about such matters as expediting shipments on goods.

Mr. Hoffman had said in China that if a Coalition was formed which represented the popular will and preserved the essential freedoms, he believed the U.S. would continue to aid China.

The effect of Mr. Lovett's statement was to re-emphasise the State Department's position of Tuesday that Mr. Hoffman was speaking for himself.

Mr. Lovett said that he knew nothing of any plan for Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek to come to the United States. He also disavowed any knowledge of political manoeuvres in Nanking aimed at creating a Coalition Government.

He declared that he had no facts about Mme. Chiang's future plans. The wife of the Chinese Generalissimo has been at the Leesburg, Virginia, home of the Secretary of State, George Marshall, and Mrs. Marshall since she arrived in Washington two weeks ago.—Associated Press.

Pay Increase For Women In Services

London, December 15. Women in the British armed forces are to receive an increase in pay totalling £1,000,000.

The Minister of Defence, Mr. A. V. Alexander, told Parliament today that in future they will get about three-quarters of the rate of pay for men, instead of about two-thirds as at present.—Reuter.

Fewer Americans Backing Chiang

New York, December 15.

A decline in American sentiment for aiding Nationalist China is indicated by a survey conducted by Dr. George Gallup's American Institute of Public Opinion.

Dr. Gallup reported that a survey, made from November 25 to December 2 among typical American voters, found 79 per cent replying that they knew about China's civil war. Of these, 32 per cent said they favoured increased American aid to Chiang, but four per cent qualified their answers with, "If it would really keep China from going Communist," or "If we could have close control over the money spent."

Thirty-four per cent opposed aid; while 13 per cent expressed no opinion.

Dr. Gallup said a similar survey conducted in April found 30 per cent favouring aid to Chiang, 23 per cent opposed and 10 per cent no opinion.

The question asked in the latest survey was: "Would you favour or oppose sending Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist Government about US\$5,000,000,000 worth of goods and military supplies in the next year to try to keep China from going Communist?"

"With opinion about evenly divided," said Dr. Gallup, "presumably sentiment throughout the country would be more favourable to a lesser sum."

The question posed in April merely asked whether the people approved more military supplies, goods and money to China, without mentioning the amount.—Union Press.

CHINESE ENVOY CALLS AT STATE DEPARTMENT

Washington, December 15.

The Chinese Ambassador, Dr. Wellington Koo, today conferred with the Under-Secretary of State Mr. Robert Lovett, for 25 minutes.

He told reporters later: "I discussed with Mr. Lovett the situation in China and sought clarification and elucidation of the position of the U.S. Government. I found the discussion helpful in that I received a good deal of clarification."

Dr. Koo said Mr. Paul Hoffman's remarks in Shanghai on Monday were touched upon during his talk with Mr. Lovett.

Asked whether there was any significance attached to Dr. Hu Shih's visit to Nanking, Dr. Koo said political leaders there had been trying to enlist his services

in the Government. Hu Shih formerly was Ambassador to the United States.

Dr. Koo said it was only natural that Government leaders would want to consult Hu Shih to get his ideas on the critical situation.

To other questions, Dr. Koo said:

1. There is no truth in reports that Chiang Kai-shek may visit the United States. He has direct information from Nanking that the reports are false.

2. His transmittal to Congress of the appeal for help by the Chinese Yuan was routine.

3. He is endeavouring to translate money paid out under the US\$125,000,000 United States military aid programme into actual supplies.

4. He does not know when Madame Chiang will return to China.—United Press.

Palestine Peace Talks

Tel Aviv, December 15.

Strict secrecy was maintained tonight by Israeli officials on the reported peace negotiations with Transjordan.

The spokesman denied rumors sweeping Tel Aviv today of direct contact between King Abdullah and Dr. Chaim Weizmann, President of Israel.

Observers in Tel Aviv believe the reported negotiations are further advanced than indicated by the Israel Government's cautious attitude.—Reuter.

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Sabotage On Ships For China

Vancouver, December 16.

Hint of sabotage aboard a Canadian-built troopship en route to Chiang Kai-shek forces in Shanghai came today from 30 returning Canadian seamen.

The sailors were crews of the Kai Men and the Chang Men, two Montreal-built 100-ton transports which they delivered to the Ming Sung Industrial Corporation of Shanghai.

A spokesman said that during the 74-day trip it was discovered that the steering engine of the Chang Men was not secured properly. On another occasion the welding connecting the keel-plate of a lifeboat broke loose during a storm.

The captain of the Chang Men said: "The steering engine mishap was very serious. Several bolts had been fastened by only a few threads to the foundation plate, with no nuts under the foundation to secure it properly."

The ships are to be used for troop-carrying on the Yangtze River.—Associated Press.

Canadians Evacuating Nanking

Ottawa, December 15.

Arrangements have been made to evacuate Canadians from Nanking and Shanghai by air starting on December 17.

The acting External Affairs Minister, Mr. Brooke Claxton, said that 40 planes, capable of carrying 40 passengers each, had been chartered by the Government.

The passengers will have to pay their own expenses. The first flight is to leave China on December 17 and is expected to arrive in Vancouver on December 19.

The Government has made no decision to remove the Canadian Embassy staff as yet.—United Press.

WANTS PRAYERS FOR STALIN

Hastings, December 16.

A former Health Minister, Ernest Brown, wants everyone to pray every day for the conversion of Premier Stalin to Christianity.

"It would do more good than the United Nations," he told a Church conference.—Associated Press.

SIAM TRADE PACT WITH JAPANESE

Tokyo, December 16.

Signing of the first contract in a US\$60,000,000 trade agreement between Siam and Japan was announced today by General Douglas MacArthur.

The first contract called approximately US\$7,000,000 worth of railroad rolling stock to be exported by Japan in return for much needed imports from Siam, including soy and other beans, copra cake, salt, tin ore, ground nuts, tapioca flour, oil bearing materials, sticklac and hides and skins.

Other exports to Siam from Japan will include electrical equipment, cotton textiles, chemicals, paper and paper products, manufactured rubber, aluminium ware, wood products, ironware, pottery, glassware, porcelain and building materials.

Trade will be both private and between governments and will be handled on a United States dollar basis with semi-annual settlements of balances.

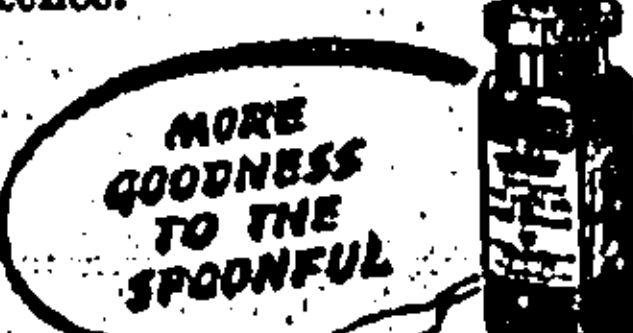
SCAP officials hailed the agreement as another step forward in expansion of Japanese commerce and foreign trade designed to make Japan self-sustaining.—Associated Press.



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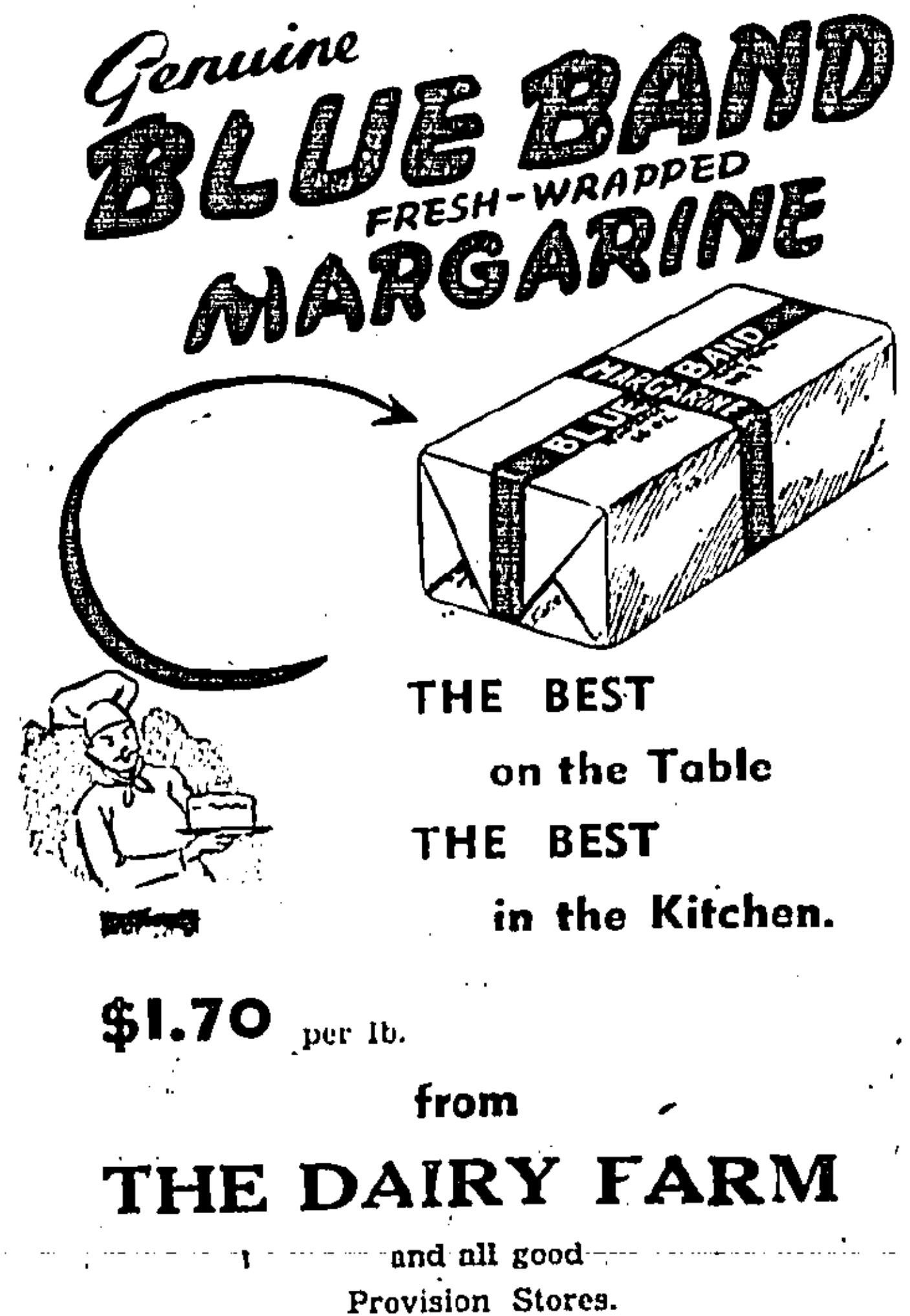
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Soviet Gold Loan For The Czechs

Prague, December 15.

It was officially announced in Prague tonight that Russia has agreed, during the trade talks just concluded in Moscow, to make Czechoslovakia a loan in gold and convertible currency.

Russia has also agreed to contribute to the development of Czechoslovak production by making further essential increases in the goods to be exchanged between the two countries.

The increases are to apply especially to heavy machinery for building, forestry and mining.

Czechoslovakia agrees to send Russia equipment for the oil industry, railway equipment and products of her light industries. The official Czech news agency stated that Russia agreed to amplify Soviet-Czechoslovak economic co-operation and to increase the exchange of goods between the two countries as announced in the Soviet-Czechoslovak trade agreement for 1949.

Representatives of both States stressed their firm will to press for the strengthening of peace and to support international co-operation by respecting national sovereignties. The Czechoslovak Prime Minister, Antonin Zapotocky, who headed the mission, said before leaving Moscow that, thanks to Premier Stalin's generosity, Czechoslovakia had received more help guaranteeing her progress towards Socialism.

Talks With Tito

Meanwhile, a Czech trade mission to Yugoslavia is leaving Belgrade without having reached agreement. But Belgrade reports of a breakdown were not taken seriously in Prague and the Czech delegation was officially stated to be going back shortly to continue the discussions on next year's trade.

They had instructions to visit Sofia as well as Belgrade for trade talks.

PEACE EFFORTS IN GREECE

Paris, December 16.

Greece and her Northern neighbours have accepted many points of a draft agreement to solve their dispute. Dr. Herbert Evatt, President of the United Nations General Assembly, said tonight.

He declared that the Conciliation Committee which is mediating in the dispute had made substantial progress. An outstanding question on which agreement had not been reached, Dr. Evatt continued, was the "normal request that Greece should agree to treat her existing boundary with Albania as definitive."

His statement added that as a matter of practice the existing boundaries between the two countries were recognised de facto and it was obvious that no party would seek to alter them contrary to the principles of the Charter.—Reuter.

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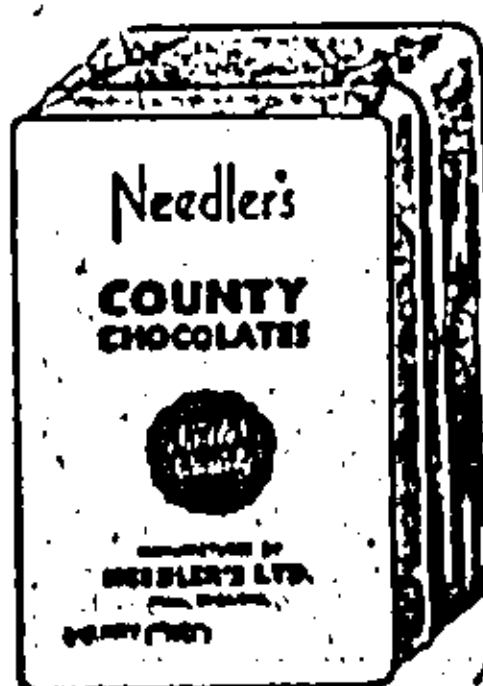
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World Meeting Of Pacifists

London, December 15.

Arrangements are well in hand for a world meeting of pacifists at Bhantinketan, near Calcutta, next December. Mr. Horace Alexander, chief adviser to the Quaker Movement in New Delhi, said here tonight.

Bhantinketan is the cultural centre founded by the late Indian poet, Sir Rabindranath Tagore. Mr. Alexander, who recently returned from a private conference of British and American Quakers at Philadelphia, said that the general policy towards relief work in India and Pakistan was discussed there.—Reuter.

New Red Tactics In Berlin "War"

Berlin, December 15.

The Berlin Communist leader today issued a rally call for the Party to take over all Berlin in the coming year.

At the same time the British commandant warned that a switch in Soviet tactics might be in the making.

The Communist city leader, Hans Jendretzky, in a New Year resolution to the Party, said: "The New Year will bring the victory of the democratic order in all Berlin."

He called for the breaking up of reactionary strongholds, making clear that he included in the legal Government of Western Berlin.

The British commandant, Major-General Edwin Herbert, said: "Anyone who thinks this cold war is a push-over should think again. There are always new methods, new weapons being brought into play by both sides."

"The Soviet tactics, based partly on a long, hard, unyielding winter, may have to be considerably revised." Vital stocks of food and coal are not expected to drop below 21 days' reserve in winter, he said. German workers, meanwhile, are deserting the Russian sector of Berlin by the hundreds, and some agencies of the Communist rump regime have been paralysed as a result, a Western sector report said today.

In the Soviet telegraph office alone, 700 men have left their jobs to go to Western Berlin, it was asserted.—United Press.

COST OF THE OCCUPATION

London, December 16.

The occupation of the British Zone of Germany cost British £37 million from the end of the hostilities to March 31 this year the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps, said in a Parliamentary reply today. The nominal value of British reparations receipts in the period up to the end of last July was £30,400.—Reuter.

INDONESIAN REPUBLIC MAKES APPEAL TO UN

Paris, December 16.

The Republic of Indonesia yesterday asked an urgent session of the U.N. Security Council to deal with the deteriorated situation growing out of the Dutch-Indonesian deadlock.

Informed U.N. sources said, however that most of the delegates hoped they could postpone consideration of this issue until after January 1.

The Indonesian Republic's demand for an immediate Council session to take steps to ensure that the situation is not worsened was contained in a letter from L. N. Palar, chief of the Republic's delegation to the Security Council.

"I have been instructed by my Government," Palar's letter said, "to draw your attention to the special report of the Committee of Good Offices on the Indonesian question dated December 12, 1948. In this report it is stated that negotiations between the Republic of Indonesia and the Netherlands have broken down and that the Committee of Good Offices does not foresee the possibility of its bringing the parties together in bona fide negotiations."

"The Committee further states that it has no confidence that the present unsatisfactory level of truce enforcement can be maintained as the possibility of maintaining the present truce agreement becomes more remote."

War Danger

"The Committee has further expressed its deliberate conviction that the present situation can only lead to a further escalation of the factors already making for further economic deterioration, general unrest and social upheaval. Widespread hostilities involving the conflict of organised armed groups on a large scale might be the outcome."

"The situation is therefore one of extreme gravity, and as the Committee of Good Offices itself realises, any attempt either to keep the situation in its present extremely precarious condition, or, worse, to alter it by resorting to force, would lead to conflagration in that part of the world, the consequences of which it is impossible now to foresee."

"The situation in Indonesia is a threat to the peace. Under the circumstances the Government of the Republic of Indonesia urges the Security Council to summon an immediate meeting to consider the situation and to take steps, first to ensure that it is not worsened and secondly, to bring about later the resumption of negotiations, either under the auspices of the Committee of Good Offices or by any other measures the Security Council may deem fit to adopt."

U.S. Demarche

"The government of the Republic of Indonesia would again emphasize that the situation is one of utmost gravity, which calls for action by the Security Council before it begins its recess."

Dutch newspapers said today, that the Netherlands Government has received a new note from the United States on the Indonesian crisis.

The note made clear that the U.S. State Department believes it is possible for the Dutch Government to continue negotiations with the Indonesian Republic through the Good Offices Commission of the United Nations in Batavia.—Associated Press.

HIGHEST SINCE DUNKIRK

London, December 16.

Britain's mines showed last week a record output of 4,405,500 tons of coal—the highest since the invasion crisis of 1940, when workers made extra efforts to beat the effects of the Dunkirk evacuation.

Production in the first 49 weeks of this year is over five per cent more than the corresponding period last year.—Reuter.

"Malignant Libel" Of Hungary?

Budapest, December 16.

Hungary, in a protest note today, denied an allegation by the Italian Minister, Count Carlo Sforza, that its army was 25,000 more than permitted under the peace treaty. Hungary called this a malignant libel.

The note handed to the Italian Ambassador, said that Sforza told the Chamber of Deputies in Rome on December 3 that Hungary's army now numbered 35,000.

Hungary said the army was far below this number, and called for rectification of Sforza's statement.

A Foreign Ministry statement denied that the Hungarian Army would be trained and supervised by a Soviet military mission.

The Hungarian Government has exclusive and complete control over its armed forces, the statement said.

(Count Sforza told the Italian Chamber that Soviet General Somardzev and a military mission of 120 Soviet officers presided over Hungary's rearmament.)—Reuter.

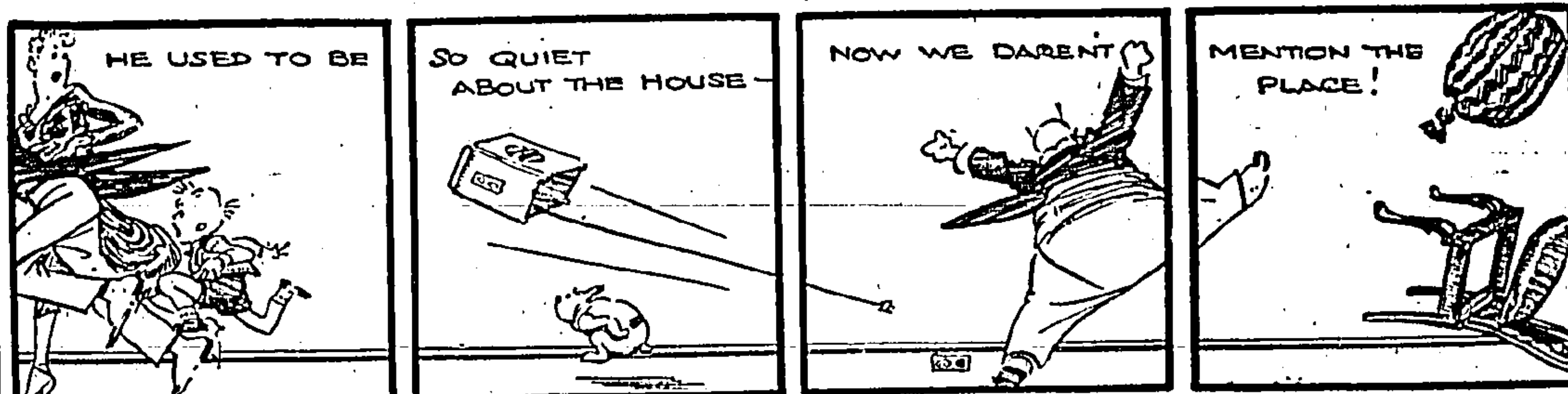
MAIDEN VOYAGE OF ORCADES

London, December 16.

The new Orca liner Orca, of 28,000 tons, left Tilbury tonight on her maiden voyage to Australia.

She replaces another ship of that name which was sunk by a German submarine in October 1942 one day after leaving Capetown. Forty-eight lives were lost in the original Orca.—Reuter.

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"HANYANG"	Swatow, Saigon & Bangkok	10 a.m. 19th Dec.	
"SZECHUEN"	Shanghai, Tientsin, Incheon & Fusan	3 p.m. 19th Dec.	
"SHENGKING"	Shanghai, Tientsin, Incheon & Fusan	4 p.m. 21st Dec.	
"HUNAN"	Shanghai, Tientsin, Incheon & Fusan	4 p.m. 22nd Dec.	
"ANHUI"	Shanghai, Tientsin, Incheon & Fusan	4 p.m. 23rd Dec.	
"TOYANG"	Bangkok, Penang & Belawan	24th Dec.	
"FENGTIEN"	Singapore, Macassar, Sourabaya & Batavia	24th Dec.	

ARRIVALS FROM			
"SZECHUEN"	Shanghai & Keelung	noon 17th Dec.	
"SHENGKING"	Shanghai & Keelung	7 a.m. 18th Dec.	
"HUNAN"	Tientsin	18th Dec.	
"ANHUI"	Swatow & Amoy	p.m. 19th Dec.	
"FENGTIEN"	Samarinda & Sandakan	7 a.m. 20th Dec.	
"TOYANG"	Japan	21st Dec.	
"NEWCHWANG"	Bangkok	24th Dec.	

RIVER SERVICE			
"FATSHAN"	Sails for Canton 10 p.m. 18th Dec.		
"WUSUEH"	Arrives from Canton 10 a.m. 21st Dec.		
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"ATREUS"	U.K. via Straits	20th Dec.	
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"TANTALUS"	"	"	

NEW YORK SERVICE			
Arrivals from			
"RHEINEN"	Liverpool & Glasgow via Port Said	20th Dec.	
"GLENHOL"	Liverpool via Port Said	24th Dec.	
"AGAPENOR"	Liverpool & Glasgow via Port Said	1st week Jan.	

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Sailings to			
"SOOCHOW"	Sydney, Melbourne & Brisbane	2nd Jan.	
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"SOOCHOW"	Sydney, Brisbane & Manila	28th Dec.	
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"TASMAN" from Macassar & Javaports 24th December	to Javaports & Macassar 26th Dec.
"TJIDAR" in port	to Javaports & Macassar 3rd February

ASIA-AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE

Arrivals	Sailings
"TEGELBERG" in port	to South Africa & South America 28th January
"RUYS" from South America & South Africa 17th January	to South Africa & South America 20th March
"STRAAT MALAKKA" from South America & South Africa 17th January	to South Africa & South America 20th March
"BOISSEVIN" from South America & South Africa 17th January	to South Africa & South America 20th March

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SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE

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"TJITJALENGKA" from Amoy 21st December	to Singapore 23rd December
"VAN RIEBISDIJK" from B. Dell & Straits 20th December	to Straits & B. Dell 20th January

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

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FINANCE AND COMMERCE

PROSPECTS FAVOURABLE FOR TRADE WITH COMMUNIST AREAS

Washington, December 16.

American businessmen in China are wondering whether they will be allowed to trade with the Communists if the Reds take Shanghai and Nanking.

They may find the answer to be yes, to the extent that it is in the interest of America.

Hong Kong Stock Exchange

There is a steady demand for most counters and it is evident that buyers will have to increase their bids to attract sellers. Excess, Shanghai Lands and Shanghai Docks have come to business in quantity at increasing rates due to easing tension in the North.

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Decline On Wall Street

New York, December 16.

The stock market drifted downward in the slowest trading since November 22. The slight overall price decline was due more to sluggish buying interest than to vigorous selling. Few losses exceeded a point, and many issues scored small gains.

Transfers totaled 920,000 shares.

Gainers included Decca Records, North American Aviation, Southern California Edison, International Nickel.

Stumblers included Commonweath Edison, Philip Morris, Santa Fe, Paramount Pictures.

Dow Jones Averages: Stocks 64.20; 20 Industrials 176.20; 15 Rails 53.31; 10 Utilities 33.20.—Associated Press.

With peace rumours motivating the gold market, price dropped from HK\$286 a tael in the morning to \$280.50 early in the afternoon. It had opened at \$294.50, a tael close was \$294.50.

US dollars opened at HK\$5.04 and topped to \$5.01 at the close.

Gold Yuan opened at 9.4 cents, went up to 10.1 and closed at 9.6.

Canton remittances opened at 8.25 cents and closed at 8.0; and Shanghai remittances rose from 8.0 to 8.2.

Piastres, continuing the downward slide, dropped to HK\$7.72 1/2 a 100.

Ticals went down another 20 cents to HK\$25 a 100.

NH Guilders were unchanged at HK\$35.50 a 100.

Sterling was unchanged at HK\$14.67.

Australian pounds, dropped to HK\$12.54.

London: Silver, Spot fine ounce 42 1/2, Forward 42 1/2; Bar, Gold, per fine ounce 172 1/2.

New York: Silver, Bar, (asked price) 42 1/2; Bar, Gold, per fine ounce (official) 53.

Bombay: Silver, Ready, per 100 tolas Rupees 178, Annas 12; Forward 177.04; Marwari (unofficial) 179.02; Gold, delivered, per tola 113.00; Forward (unofficial) 112.11; Gold, Sovereign 74.04. (One tola is equal to 3 1/2 of an ounce).

Bangkok: Gold, Bar, baht-weight of 15.244 grammes (unquoted). Exchange Rate (Selling) Bangkok on New York T.T. 19.70; London 61.50; Hong Kong 3.92.

Paris: Free Gold Prices: Napoleon 6,050 Frs; French 10 franc coins 2,780; Swiss franc 5,900; Union Latine 5,025; Sovereign 7,475; Half Sovereign 3,450; U.S. \$ 20 Coin 20,800; U.S. \$ 10 Coin 14,500; Sovereign (in free U.S. \$ per ounce) \$98.7; Napoleon (in free U.S. \$ per ounce) \$101.1; U.S. Dollar notes (in black-market) 538.

Paris: Free Market Rates: Ingots: Fine Gold ingots, with delivery of counterpart per gramme 254.246 Frs. Without counterpart 270.910; Silver ingots, per kilo 6,000, 7,400; Platinum ingots, per kilo 600,000, 855,000.—Reuter.

Wellington, December 16.

Visas for travel between New Zealand and Denmark will be abolished from January 1, 1949.

An agreement to this effect has been signed between the New Zealand Minister of Customs, Mr. Walter Nash, and the Charge d'Affaires at the Danish Legation in Wellington, M. Eftreld.—Reuter.

London: Silver, Spot fine ounce 42 1/2, Forward 42 1/2; Bar, Gold, per fine ounce 172 1/2.

New York: Silver, Bar, (asked price) 42 1/2; Bar, Gold, per fine ounce (official) 53.

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London: Silver, Spot fine ounce 42 1/2, Forward 42 1/2

MESSAGERIES

MARITIMES

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ARRIVALS FROM

S.S. "MANDO"	Japan	Reg. Jan.
S.S. "CHAMPOLLION"	Europe via Haiphong	Mid Jan.
S.S. "GRONLAND"	Europe via Singapore	on/ab about 20th Dec.

SAILING TO

S.S. "MANDO"	Europe via Haiphong	Reg. Jan.
S.S. "CHAMPOLLION"	Shanghai via Haiphong	Mid Jan.
S.S. "GRONLAND"	Manila via Haiphong	on/ab about 20th Dec.
S.S. "CHAMPOLLION"	Manila via Haiphong	Mid Jan.

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 Queen's Building. Tel. 26851 (three Lines)

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STEAMSHIP

CORPORATION

MOBILE, ALA., U.S.A.

EXPRESS SERVICE TO NEW YORK
via Panama.

S.S. "ANDREW JACKSON"	loading Hong Kong 27th Dec.
S.S. "MADDET"	17th Jan.
S.S. "KYSKA"	28th Jan.

DIRECT for New York, Baltimore and Philadelphia via Honolulu.

Limited Passenger accommodation

Cargoes available for bulk oil cargoes.

For freight and further particulars apply:-

WALLEM & COMPANY

Agents

Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Bldg.

Tel: 34177-2

THE PACIFIC ORIENT EXPRESS LINE

LOADING FOR U.S. PACIFIC COAST PORTS

S.S. "PACIFIC ORIENT"	loading Hong Kong 19th Dec.
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DUE FROM U.S. PACIFIC COAST PORTS

S.S. "VITO"	9th Jan.
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For Freight and further particulars apply direct to:-

WALLEM AND CO.

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Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building.

Tels. 34177-2.

IVARAN LINES FAR EAST SERVICE

Loading for U.S. Atlantic Coasts
Via Honolulu

"IVARAN"	loading Hong Kong 18th Dec.
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Oil Tanks Available

"BORGHOLT"	discharging Hong Kong 19th Dec.
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Accepting transshipment cargo for Caribbean and Gulf Ports

M.S. "GERTRUDE MAERSK"	December 30
M.S. "MAREN MAERSK"	January 12

Special Tariffs available for the carriage of oil in bulk

ARRIVALS FROM NEW YORK AND
OTHER U.S. PORTS

M.S. "TREN MAERSK"	December 25
M.S. "CORNELIUS MAERSK"	January 2

For Freight and Further Particulars please apply to:-

Agents **JEBSEN & CO.** Tel. Nos. 26804-2
Queen's BuildingAIRCRAFT
MOVEMENTS

Arrivals

CNAC ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

Departures

CNAC ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

Tomorrow

CNAC ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
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Sunday

CNAC ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
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Sunday

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ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

Shipping Arrivals

YESTERDAY

HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

TOMORROW

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

Shipping Departures

YESTERDAY

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

TODAY

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

TOMORROW

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

Vessels In Port

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
ANHUI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
HONG KONG (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.

SHANGHAI (H.K.) ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.	ex-Shanghai via Canton 2.45 p.m.
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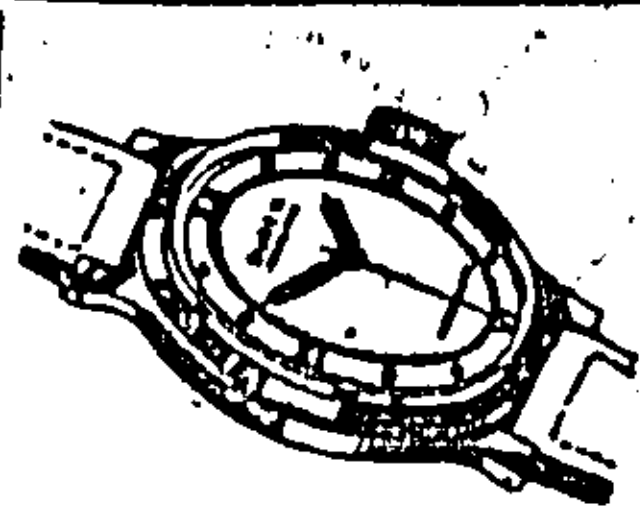
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BUREN
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SWISS WATCH

CHINA MAIL

HONG KONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1948.



ABDULLA
NUMBER SEVEN
"7"
In PACKETS or TINS

S. AFRICA MAKE 74 RUNS FOR 3 IN FIRST TEST

Durban, December 16.
South Africa had made 74 runs for three wickets at the lunch interval today in their first Test against the MCC here.
England made a good start, dismissing three of South Africa's best batsmen for 74 runs in 105 minutes before lunch. Fifty-one of these runs came from the third wicket partnership between Dudley Nourse, South Africa's captain, who claimed 37 and Bruce Mitchell, playing in his 38th Test.

Jenkins, England's so-called "secret weapon", got a wicket with his third ball in Test cricket. The other wickets were claimed by Bedser and Wright, who used his new shorter run up and showed improved form.
After two wickets had fallen for 18 runs, a great responsibility rested on Mitchell and Nourse, and they appeared to be carrying South Africa through an awkward period until a marvelous catch by Watkins at forward short-leg off Wright dismissed Nourse to break the stand.

Gaul Terms For Cutting Govt Cables

The destruction of Government live cables has been very prevalent and the culprits were very hard to catch, declared Superintendent N. G. Ralph, when he prosecuted five Chinese, whom he arrested in the act of cutting cables at Cape Collinson and asked that a very serious view of the case be taken.
Kung Chi-chai and four others were charged together with others not in custody.
All defendants pleaded guilty and asked to be given a light sentence on the grounds that they had never committed any offence before and when challenged by the Superintendent, they did not even attempt to run away as did the others.
Taking their plea into consideration, Mr. Hin-shing Lo, sentenced them to six weeks each and ordered them to be banished at the expiration of sentence.

At lunch, Mitchell was still unbeaten with 21 to his credit. The teams were: South Africa: D. Nourse, E. Rowan, O. Wynne, B. Mitchell, W. Wade, D. Begbie, O. Dawson, A. Rowan, D. Tuckett, R. Mann and C. McCarthy.
England: L. Hutton, C. Waahbrook R. Simpson, G. Mann, A. Bedser, D. Compton, C. Gladwin, T. G. Evans, A. Watkins, D. Wright and R. Jenkins.
Scores: South Africa—1st innings, E. Rowan, c Evans, b Jenkins 7; O. Wynne, c Compton, b Bedser 21; B. Mitchell, not out 37; W. Wade, not out 3; Extras 1.
Total for 3 74.
Fall of wickets: 1 for 0, 2 for 18, 3 for 69.—Reuter.

BADMINTON RESULTS

Results of the Men's Doubles league matches in the Badminton "B" Division played on Wednesday, December 15:—
SECTION I
Kowloon Tong "A" beat St. John's "A" 9-0.
Kowloon Dock lost to St. Teresa's "A" 1-8.
SECTION II
VRC "B" lost to Kowloon Tong "B" 1-8.
St. John's "B" lost to Recreation 0-9.
RAF lost to Chinese YMCA 0-9.
The match between St. Teresa's "B" and Chung Wah was postponed.
London, December 15.
Rugby Union results:
County Championship: Surrey 5 Eastern Counties 8.
Other match: Aldershot Services 3 United Services, Portsmouth 0.—Reuter.

Korean Team To Play On Dec 31

At yesterday's meeting of the Interport Sub-Committee of the Hong Kong Football Association, it was decided that unless the Korean Soccer XI is prepared to play here on December 31, as previously arranged, its proposed tour must be treated as cancelled.
It was also disclosed at the meeting, over which Mr. A. McAlpine presided, that the proposed tour of the Upeast (Hungharian) soccer team had, as exclusively reported in yesterday's "China Mail", been called off.
The meeting also announced that the Interport with Saloon would be played on January 29. In addition to the Interport match, the visitors would also meet Combined Chinese XI on January 30 and a Non-Chinese XI on February 1.
Dealing with the tour of the Upeast team, it was stated that although urgent telegrams had been sent to them in charge of the Hungarian team regarding the visit, no reply had been received.

No Reply

Mr. Aw Hoo, sponsor of the tour, had contacted the local immigration authorities and had been informed that no communication had been received from H. M. Consul at the other end regarding entry permits for the Upeast team.
The meeting decided, therefore, that the tour be regarded as called off.
Regarding the visit of the Saloon team, it was agreed that all three matches in which the visitors would be participating should be played at Caroline Hill.
Prices of admission for the Interport match and the game against Combined Chinese were fixed at \$10, \$5 and \$3. Servicemen will be charged \$3 for the covered stands and \$1.70 for the end stands.
Prices for admission to the match against Non-Chinese will be \$5, \$3.50 and \$2.40. Servicemen: \$1.70 and \$1.20.
It was arranged that booking be allowed in respect of the \$10 seats.
The meeting decided that no player taking part in the Interport game should be eligible to play in the Non-Chinese XI.
An Entertainment Committee comprising Mr. J. C. Gulligan, Mr. A. J. Hussain, Mr. Ip Kau-ke and Mr. Loo Tsun-hing, was appointed.

Coaching Programme

Free coaching of soccer players belonging to Clubs affiliated to the Hong Kong Football Association will be given by Mr. Eric Keen as under from December 20 to December 24:
Monday—Boundary Street.
Tuesday—Sookunpoo.
Wednesday—Caroline Hill.
Thursday—Club.
Friday—Sookunpoo.

Sir Alexander Opens Exhibit

(Continued from Page 1)
"For instance, at this exhibition there are displayed two of the latest Colony ventures—plastic and cotton yarn. I trust that these and the other products which have previously been exhibited, have come to stay."
Increasing Competition
"The sellers' market that existed in the years immediately following the war is already coming to an end. This means that there will be competition, and increasing competition, in world markets."
"Hong Kong products can only hold their own if they compare favourably with products of other countries. Therefore it behooves the various industries to make themselves as efficient as possible. The inefficient will go to the wall."
"One hears from time to time talk of a protective tariff round Hong Kong, or even a quota system. This, of course, would be in conflict with Hong Kong's role as an entrepot, and would not be in the interest of the Colony as a whole."
"But even were the Government to agree to such a course, which is extremely unlikely, I do not think it would be the answer. The Hong Kong market itself is too small a market. Our industries must export, and protection in the home market is not



The site of Masonic Hall, beside Dina House, in Duddell Street, was the scene of a temporary commotion when a manoeuvring truck edged too near a pit and caved in the soft sand. The rear left wheels slipped in. ("China Mail" Photo).

Standard Of Rugby Games Indicates Successful Season

If the opening games of the Quadrangular Tournament may be taken as an indication of the standard of rugby for the rest of the season, rugby supporters will be satisfied.

The Royal Navy 15 has two splendid matches to its credit, although going down narrowly in one of these, while the Club-Army affair was a thriller.

The combined RAF-HK Police side, after a spirited showing against the Club, surprisingly collapsed against the Naval onslaught last Saturday and will have to tighten up their defence considerably to hold the redoubtable Army team this week. The soldiers possess a young mobile pack and fast outsiders, most ably led by Major Wilson and should emerge victors.

The combined side were unfortunate to lose the services of Patton so early in the season, and Oliver, a stalwart of last season has much all too few appearances, his sound lengthy place kicking alone being an asset to any side. Rumour has it that Wright-North, the mastery of their pack, complements taking a less active interest in the game and supporters will undoubtedly hope that this tale is unfounded.
Highlight of Saturday's fixtures at Sookunpoo will be the Navy-Club clash. The return of Compton to the Duggan to the Navy eight will enhance their prospect of victory.

Lack Lustre

The Navy's backs today have lacked lustre and on numerous occasions have failed to seize opportunities presented by the bustling tactics of their robust pack, but with the recent arrival of Naval vessels this department will no doubt be strengthened.
Their heavy pack supported by a resolute defence will constitute a serious threat to the Club's unblemished tournament record.
The Club have made only one change from last Saturday's selection, full back Findlay Cessford has decided to withdraw from serious rugby and his place will be filled by Clemon.
Cessford is one of the few pre-war Club and Interport players still in the game, and supporters will recall that he was formerly stand-off in one of the best three quarter lines ever produced by the Club. Although small in stature, he was a fearless defender and possessed a very deceptive link in attack and his voluntary "no side" is a distinct loss to the Club.

The Board's rules required it to delay the payment—estimated at £5,000 until its stewards had investigated the disqualification. The fight ended half way through the fourth round of a 10 round bout.
At today's meeting Bill Daly, manager of Savold, was asked to explain his statement "We were robbed."
"I told them I meant no reflection on the officials," Daly reported.
"I said I was referring to Woodcock for claiming a foul I still feel Woodcock robbed Lee of a deserved knock-out."
Daly said the stewards were lenient to Savold for the low right hand punch because he is used to America's no foul rule. Savold, Daly and the Canadian lightweight, Molly Cantor, leave today by plane for Oslo to box an exhibition on Sunday. They return here on Monday to discuss future fights in Europe with the promoter, Jack Solomons.—Associated Press.

POLO AND HUNT CLUB

The next meeting of the Polo and Hunt Club will be held on Sunday, December 19, at 11.30 a.m. at Dills Corner.

Savold's Purse Freed By Boxing Board

London, December 16.
The British Boxing Board of Control today freed the American heavyweight, Lee Savold's, purse for the fight on December 6 which he lost to Bruce Woodcock on a foul.

RECREIO EXPECTED TO DEFEAT INDIAN RC XI

(By "MID ON")

Unless the unexpected happens, Indian RC will be in for another beating when they meet Club do Recreio in the First Division of the Cricket League at Sookunpoo tomorrow.

The Portuguese are leaving nothing to chance and are fielding their best team, which includes four of the Gosano clan, and that being the case, I cannot visualise a home-team victory.

Fine Soloists In Choral Concert

By KIMBERLEY
The superlative singing of Gaston d'Aquino added to the high standard of the vocal and orchestral concert presented last night by The Hong Kong Choral Group under the auspices of the St. Thomas More Association.

The theatre at the China Fleet Club was filled to capacity as Maestro Eliso Gualdi tapped his baton to begin a first choral number with orchestra.
The Governor was represented by his A.D.C. Captain A. Wilson. Among those who attended were Rear-Admiral Madden, the Chief Justice, Sir Leslie Gibson, and Lady Gibson, the Commissioner of Police, Mr. D. W. Mackintosh and Mrs. Mackintosh, Mr. and Mrs. Fitz-Gibbons, President of St. Thomas More's Association.
The Maestro distributed his five soloists to effect. John Cheung (baritone) began with Beethoven's Egmont Overture. Sylvia Choy's soprano gave Mozart's "Alleluia" and "Lo Here the Gentle Lark" by Bishop.

After the interval Jeanette Ho, the reputed soprano of Hong Kong, Monaco and Canton, held the audience with her first song which was received with such appreciation that she had to remain on the stage for an encore.
Gaston d'Aquino's number literally held the auditorium hypnotised. The feeling he put in his singing last night was something Hong Kong has seldom had a chance to enjoy. This was manifested in the reception which greeted him after each of his three songs. He ended the vocal numbers with John Cheung in a Verdi duet.

The trouble at the Sookunpoo Club at the moment can be traced to just one thing—lack of keenness. Whereas in the old days there was always a crowd at their nets every afternoon, one only sees the same three or four men at practice these days, and that certainly is not the way to run a cricket team.

On the Navy ground, Kowloon Cricket Club seconds will probably score a big enough total to give them the points, although there is never any certainty with the Navy who may be very strong one week and deplorably weak the next, all depending on the exigencies of the Service.

Followers of the game who would like to see a really good match should make the trip to Sookunpoo where the Army will be at home to the Club "Scorpions".
On the Chater Ground round, the "Optimists" meet RAF and should win, though the Force are capable of putting up a good fight. The latter possess a couple of bowlers who are well-nigh deadly on their day, but against this Kibbee, McLellan, Perry and Little are batsmen that take some shifting after they have had a couple of over or so.
Another holiday match will be played by the Club "Occasionals" under veteran C. D. Wales on Sunday against KCC on the latter's ground.

CLUB RUGBY XV

The following have been chosen to represent the Club XV in their rugby match against Royal Navy at Sookunpoo at 3.15 p.m. tomorrow:
Clemon, Robinson, Franklin, Henderson, de Rome, Henderson, de Rome, Henderson, Lochlan, Carroll, Moffat, Forsgate, Brown, Bowman, Farquharson, Taylor and Warner.
It was announced by the Hong Kong Football Association yesterday that the University Soccer XI had withdrawn from the Junior Division of the Football League.

Gold Necklet Ordered Confiscated

A gold necklet containing a number of fair-seized gold beads, weighing six taels, was ordered to be confiscated by Mr. W. A. Blair-Kerr at Kowloon yesterday.

The owner was Pak Ching-may, described as a 23-year-old cabaret girl living at 41 Wongnienchung Road, first floor, who claimed that the necklet was a piece of gold ornament.
Revenue Inspector D. H. Knox said that when defendant was asked at the Kai Tak airport, as she was about to board a Hong Kong Airways plane for Canton at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, whether she had any gold to declare she named the necklet.
The court held that the ornament was not a piece of jewelry as a lady would usually wear as the beads were more or less crude lumps of gold. Accused was cautioned.

CCC CRICKET XI

The following will represent the Cravenpower Cricket Club in its cricket league game against University at the CCC grounds, Happy Valley, this Saturday:
G. A. Souza (captain), K. Y. Tan, R. Tay, S. Runchand, George Hong Choy, P. J. Billimoria, A. H. Ismail, T. Crabtree, J. L. Youngs, R. O. Baker, H. B. Lin, C. W. Lam.

IRC 1st TEAM

The following have been selected to represent the IRC 1st XI in a league cricket match against Club do Recreio 1st XI at Sookunpoo tomorrow, at 1.45 p.m. sharp.
A. R. Abbas (captain), A. el Arculli, A. K. Ismail, S. A. Ismail, S. H. Khan, A. H. Madar, A. R. Kitchell, K. Nazarin, I. M. Omar, M. I. Razack and A. H. Sufiad.
Umpire: G. M. Butt, Scorer: A. M. Wahab.

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